DirectED PLUS

DirectED PLUS
Director's Manual

MANL-0043-02 • 90628

VIDEONICS

DirectED PLUS

PERSONAL MOVIE MAKER

DirectED PLUS
Director's Manual

MANL-0043-02 • 90628

WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or electrical shock, do not expose this appliance to rain or other moisture. If you spill liquid on the equipment, disconnect the power cord and consult authorized personnel. Moisture can damage internal parts.

CAUTION

RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN

CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER. NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

Videonics DirectED PLUS: Director's Manual

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Price in USA: $15.00

VIDEONICS LIMITED WARRANTY

IMPORTANT! Be sure to save your sales receipt. A sales slip or evidence of purchase is required for warranty service.

Videonics, Inc. warrants this product against defects in materials or workmanship as follows:

1. **For a period of 90 days from the date of purchase, Videonics will repair or replace the unit, at our option, without charge for parts or labor. After the 90 day period, you must pay all labor charges.**

2. **In addition, Videonics will supply new or remanufactured parts at no charge, for a period of one year from date of purchase.**

The limited warranty is extended only to the original consumer and is valid only to consumers in the United States and Canada. It does not cover damage or failure caused by or attributable to Acts of God, abuse, misuse, improper or abnormal usage, faulty installation, improper maintenance, lightning, or other incidence of excessive voltage, or any repairs or tampering by other than a Videonics-authorized repair facility. It does not cover replacement of batteries or other consumable parts, transportation costs, or damage in transit. This warranty will become void if the serial number or model identification has been wholly or partly removed or erased. Repair or replacement under the terms of this warranty do not extend the terms of this warranty. This warranty can not be modified by any agent of Videonics unless in writing and signed by an officer of Videonics, Inc.

Should this product prove defective in workmanship or material, the consumer's sole remedies shall be such repair or replacement as provided by the terms of this warranty. Under no circumstances shall Videonics be liable for any loss or damage, direct, consequential, or incidental, arising out of the use of or inability to use this product. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

To obtain warranty service, deliver the product, shipping prepaid, along with evidence of purchase date, to a Videonics-authorized repair facility. Please include a description of the problem, your name, address, and phone number, and any special shipping instructions. For the name of the nearest repair facility, contact Videonics.

The serial number is on the back of the Videonics Video Control Unit. Write the number inside the front cover of the manual and save for future reference.

MANL-0002-03 • 90124

VIDEONICS, Inc. • 1370 Dell Avenue • Campbell, CA 95008 (408)866-8300

FREE • Extended Warranty • Product Information

FREE Warranty Extension

Send in the attached card within 30 days and we will extend the parts-and-labor portion of the warranty for 30 days at no charge.

FREE subscription to Videonics DIRECT

From time to time, we publish *Videonics DIRECT,* a newsletter designed for the owners of Videonics products. It contains editing hints and techniques, new product news, special offers, news from users groups, and much more. Send in the attached product registration card and you'll receive a free subscription, starting with the next issue.

Our mailing list is confidential

We respect your confidentiality — we do not sell the names and addresses on our mailing list.

For your records

Save this portion of the card for your records. Save your sales receipt — a copy will be required if you need warranty service.

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SEND THIS PORTION to Videonics DIRECT, 1370 Dell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008-6604

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Company: _____ Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

We conduct regular customer surveys. May we call you for your opinions?

Phone (evening): ( ) _____ Phone (day): ( ) _____

Videonics product purchased:

☐ DirectED PLUS
☐ Other _____

Serial number _____

Purchased from (dealer name) _____

Purchase date _____

Purchase price _____

COMMENTS:

MANL-0004-03 • 00620 • Rev. B

For free assistance with any Videonics product, call our HelpLine:

Videonics *HelpLine*

AVAILABLE IN THE U.S. ONLY

1-800-872-3637

8 AM – Noon, 1 PM – 5 PM Pacific time, Monday through Friday

IMPORTANT! For fastest service, please view the Getting StartED tape and read the manual before you call. Please have the following information on-hand:

Brand and model of your VCRs/camcorders:

MAIN VCR		Videonics unit serial number	
PLAY VCR OR CAMCORDER		Getting StartED tape version (stamped on the tape's label)	

SAVE THIS PORTION

Attach postage for post card

Videonics Inc.
1370 Dell Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008-6604

As a service to our customers, Videonics is providing a special ***toll-free HelpLine*** in addition to our standard *HelpLine* service. Our experienced *HelpLine* staff can help you with all aspects of setting up and operating *DirectED PLUS*.

For fastest service, please view the *Getting StartED* video and read the manual before you call.

If the special toll-free line is busy, please try again later. If you wish, you may call the regular *HelpLine* number, 408-866-8300. Please do not call collect — the operators are not authorized to accept collect calls.

Need help? Call the

Videonics HelpLine

1-800-872-3637

8 AM — 12 Noon, 1 PM — 5 PM Pacific time, M — F.
Available in the U.S. only.

If the line is busy, you may also call our regular HelpLine service at;

1-408-866-8300

There is no charge for *HelpLine* assistance.

When calling the *HelpLine* please have the following information available;
- Dealer system was purchased from.
- Make and model numbers of VCRs.
- Version number of the *Getting StartED* tape (can be located on outside of tape).

Remember to send in the product registration card so we can send you Videonics DIRECT, the periodical newsletter for owners of Videonics products.

MANL-0148-02 • 00307

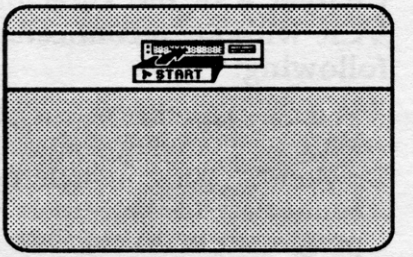
Addendum to Director's Manual

If you lose power or the unit is unplugged

The Videonics Video Control Unit is designed to be plugged in all the time (like an electric clock). When it loses power or is unplugged from the wall outlet, it "forgets" whatever is in memory, including the contents of your movies.

Fortunately, this important information is saved for you on Movie Library Tape 1 when you press the PWR button on the remote control. Always remember to press PWR when you leave the unit (then follow the on-screen instructions, inserting Tape 1 to save the contents of memory on the tape).

If the unit loses power or you unplug it, the information will disappear from memory and the unit will display a diagram on the screen. (In some cases a written message asking you to insert the *Getting StartED* tape may appear instead of the diagram.)



Note that the PWR key won't do anything at this point and the ATTENTION light on the Video Control Unit won't flash when you press the remote control keys.

Insert Movie Library Tape 1 in the MAIN VCR, rewind it to the beginning of the tape and press PLAY on the VCR. (If you don't have a Tape 1, insert the *Getting StartED* tape.) The unit will automatically restore everything it needs from Tape 1 and you can continue with everything exactly as it was the last time Tape 1 was recorded.

Why Library Tape 1 is important

Library Tape 1 is a very special tape. Unlike the other tapes in your movie library, it contains no video material. Instead, it

contains your movie library data and the program (software) that runs *DirectED PLUS*. (In addition, safety copies of the movie data are kept on other library tapes.)

If Tape 1 is lost or damaged, refer immediately to Chapter 9 of the Director's Manual (especially page 9-6) to recreate it.

It is not always possible to recreate all the lost information, so you may want to create a spare Tape 1 (page 9-4) and periodically recreate it. Then, if the worst should happen, you will at least be able to restore the movie library as it was when you last recorded the spare Tape 1.

Using your VCR when you're not editing

Chapter 4 of the Director's Manual discusses how to use your VCR without reconnecting the Videonics unit. Please add the following:

You can tape broadcast programs from cable TV or your antenna without changing connections using your VCR's "LINE/TUNER" switch*. This switch determines whether the VCR input is connected to the tuner (which allows it to record broadcast programs) or to the line input (which connects it to the VIDEO inputs, as used by DirectED PLUS). The line switch works differently (and is labeled differently) on many VCRs. See "Connecting the MAIN VCR: Set to LINE input" in Chapter 1 for some examples and exceptions.

* Some VCRs switch from TUNER to LINE as soon as you plug cables into the VIDEO inputs. To record broadcast programs on these VCRs, you will need to unplug the cables.

Remember to switch back to LINE (or plug the cables back in) when you want edit again.

Pre-recorded tapes

Many commercially available pre-recorded tapes are electronically encoded to prevent copying. (Macrovision is the most

common form of this.) This also prevents editing; you will be unable to mark scenes on dubs made from copy-protected tapes.

If your MAIN VCR is manufactured by JVC and has "flying erase heads"

A flying-erase head VCR is designed to prevent "glitches" between scenes. Glitches (called "video noise" in some VCR manuals) are rolls, picture disruptions, or moving color rainbows where one scene ends and another begins. If you find that your final productions have glitches despite the fact that your JVC-made MAIN VCR has flying erase heads, repeat the "**Setup or change MAIN VCR**" steps described in Chapter 3 of the Director's Manual. Specifically:

• Repeat "**Learn VCR remote control**" once. It is important that you do this only once.

• Repeat the rest of the steps in the setup menu — check the VCR remote control, then learn the VCR's play and record characteristics.

```
Setup or change MAIN VCR

Enter name of VCR ..................................... MAIN
Choose tape format ..................................... VHS
Enter new library tape length ..................... 120
Choose stereo or mono ........................... Stereo
Learn VCR remote control
Check VCR remote control
Learn VCR PLAY characteristics
Learn VCR RECORD characteristics
Done
```

Make a small final production to confirm that the glitches are gone. If they remain:

• Be sure that your VCR really is equipped with flying erase heads. Check the VCR's manual or call the Videonics HelpLine.

• Repeat the above steps, being sure you perform the "**Learn UCR remote control**" step *exactly once.*

For an explanation of why all this is necessary, see the "How It Works" section.

Learning the VCR remote control

When you setup your MAIN VCR, repeat the step, "**Check UCR remote control**" several (at least five) times. The VCR should do *exactly* what the screen says, each and every time (and almost all VCRs will). If it does not, repeat the step, "**Learn UCR remote control**" *(exactly once)* and try again. If it still does not work consistently, repeat the "**Learn**" step one more time.

If the "**Check**" step still does not work, try the suggestions in Chapter 3 (pages 3-7 through 3-9) of the Director's Manual. When it works perfectly every time, proceed to the next two steps in the menu, learning the play and record characteristics.

Most VCRs will learn correctly the first time. The "How It Works" section explains why it is sometimes necessary to repeat the learning procedure.

How it works

Here's why the above steps are necessary for certain VCRs. Some VCR manufacturers use slightly different wireless infrared (IR) remote control codes, on some of their models. There is no way for DirectED PLUS to electronically determine which codes are in use by the VCR you own. When you first learn your VCR's characteristics, we assume that your VCR uses the most common codes. So in most cases, everything will work fine. If it does not, your system will exhibit the symptoms described above and the remedy is to repeat the learning steps. The second time through, DirectED PLUS will use the second set of codes and everything should work.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

WARNING: SHOCK HAZARD — DO NOT OPEN!
AVIS: RISQUE DE CHOC ELECTRIQUE — NE PAS OUVRIR!

CAUTION: To prevent electric shock do not use this polarized plug with an extension cord, receptacle, or other outlet unless the blades can be fully inserted to prevent blade exposure.
ATTENTION: Pour prevenir les chocs electrique, ne pas utiliser cette fiche polarisee avec un prolongateur, une prise de courant ou une autre sortie de courant, sauf si les lames peuvent etre inserees a fond sans en laisser aucune partie a decouvert.

INSTALLATION

Read all instructions. Save them for future reference. Adhere to all warnings on the Video Control Unit and in the operating instructions. Follow all operating and use instructions.

CAUTION: Your Video Control Unit operates on 120 volts, 60 Hz (normal U.S./Canada household current) and has a polarized plug. (Outside the U.S., check the label on the back of the unit for operatiing voltage.) One blade of the plug is wider than the other. The plug fits in the wall socket only one way. **Do not defeat the safety feature of this plug.** If you need an extension, use a polarized cord.

Power cords should be routed so they are not likely to be pinched by items placed on them or against them. Pay particular attention to cords near the plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the appliance. Do not overload wall outlets and extension cords as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

The slots in the top and front of the unit are provided for necessary ventilation. For reliable operation and to prevent overheating, ***never allow the ventilation slots to be covered***. Don't locate the Videonics Video Control Unit in a confined space such as a bookcase or entertainment center cabinet, unless there is proper ventilation.

Do not place the unit near heat sources, including radiators and heating vents, or in direct sunlight.

Never locate the unit near water (bathtubs, swimming pools, in a wet basement, etc.). Do not use outdoors.

USE AND CARE

Do not use attachments not recommended by Videonics as they may cause hazards. Do not place this video product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The video product may fall, causing serious injury to a child or adult, and serious damage to the appliance. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table recommended by the manufacturer or sold with the video product. Any mounting of the appliance should follow the manufacturer's instructions and should use a mounting accessory recommended by the manufacturer. An appliance and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the appliance and cart combination to overturn.

Never push objects of any kind into the unit through openings as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-circuit parts that could cause electric shock or fire.

Unplug this video product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use only a lightly moistened cloth. Never use solvents of any kind.

SERVICE

Do not attempt to service this video product yourself as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards.

Unplug this video product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

- When the power cord or plug is frayed, damaged, or worn.
- If liquid is spilled into the unit or objects have fallen inside.
- If the unit has been exposed to rain or water.
- If the unit has been dropped or the cabinet is damaged.
- If the unit exhibits a distinct change in performance.

- If the unit does not operate normally by following the operating instructions. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions as improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the unit to its normal operation.

For repair or replacement in the United States, this product should be returned to Videonics, 1370 Dell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008.

ABOUT RADIO INTERFERENCE

This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy. If not installed and used according to the manufacturer's instructions, it may interfere with radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of the FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If you experience radio or television interference and suspect that this equipment is the cause, power the unit off, then unplug the unit to see whether the interference stops. If the equipment is the cause try the following:

- Reorient the radio or television's receiving antenna
- Move the equipment with respect to the receiver
- Plug the equipment into an outlet that is fed from a different circuit breaker

If necessary, consult your dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for suggestions. You may find the following booklet, prepared by the Federal Communications Commission, helpful: "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems." It is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Ask for stock number 004-000-00345-4.

RADIO INTERFERENCE NOTICE FOR CANADA

This digital apparatus does not exceed the class B limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus, as set out in the radio interference regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications.

Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant les limites applicables aux appareils numériques de classe B, prescrites dans le règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par le Ministèrer des Communications du Canada.

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Prices and specifications are subject to change without notice. Printed in U.S.A.

RECORDING RIGHTS

Unauthorized recording or use of broadcast television programming, video tape, film or other copyrighted material may violate copyright laws. Videonics Corporation assumes no responsibility for the unauthorized duplication, use or other acts which infringe upon the copyrights of others.

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Important! No other Videonics Video Control Unit has the same serial number as yours. Record the number here where it will be handy in the event of theft. You will find the model and serial numbers on the back of the unit (not on the remote control).

Model: **VCU-1 with *DirectED PLUS***

Purchase date: _____ Dealer: _____

Serial number: _____ Dealer location: _____

ATTACH YOUR SALES SLIP HERE. If you do not have a copy of the sales slip, contact your dealer immediately and ask for one. A sales slip or proof of purchase is required for warranty service.

DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE. This product is distributed and serviced in the United States by the manufacturer, Videonics, Inc. Outside the U.S., it is distributed and serviced by the distributor identified in the documents that accompanied the product.

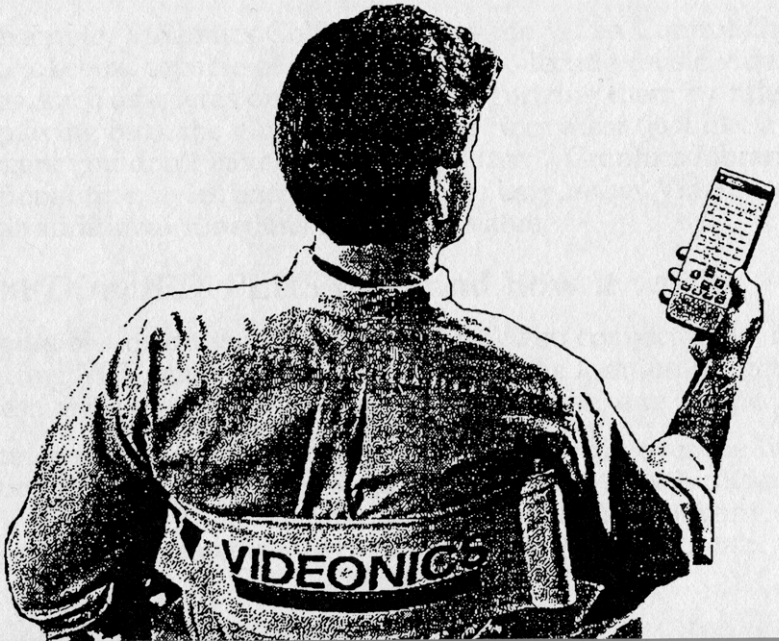
Introduction
About *DirectED PLUS*

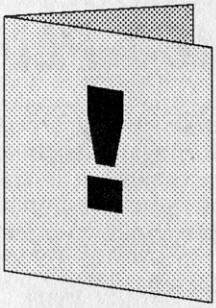
DirectED PLUS helps you turn your home videos into professional-looking productions, complete with special effects, titles, and graphics. It's easy to learn and use. There are no odd little knobs, buttons, and counters — everything is done with the wireless remote control. On-screen instructions lead you through the editing process step-by-step. Clear HELP screens are available when you need more information.

DirectED PLUS keeps a library of all your video material. You simply mark the good scenes and *DirectED PLUS* remembers their exact location! No more scribbled tape labels, no more tape diaries, no more copying numbers off the tape counter.

To make a movie, you choose the scenes you want, decide their order, and, if you wish, add titles and graphics in 64 colors. *DirectED PLUS* automatically decides which original tape it needs and asks for it. Then it places each scene where it belongs on the final production tape. Even if your production takes hours to produce, *DirectED PLUS* handles all the details, telling you which tapes to insert and rewind. The result is a complete production, copied directly from your *original* tape for best quality.

Compatible with all video formats and equipment from just about any manufacturer, *DirectED PLUS*'s ease of use and precision editing performance put quality video production in the hands of anyone who owns a video camera.





Using DirectED PLUS Successfully

A four-page pamphlet called *Using DirectED PLUS Successfully* is included with *DirectED PLUS*. It contains important hints on how to best use the product. Keep the pamphlet handy as you learn to make movies.

Before you begin — some important concepts

PWR A word about turning the Videonics Video Control Unit off

When you first plug the Video Control Unit in, the PWR key does nothing and the ATTENTION light won't flash when you use the remote control. This is normal. They will operate after you have completely set up the unit. Meanwhile, it's perfectly all right to leave the unit on all the time.

Throughout this manual, this logo indicates items of special interest to owners of the original DirectED.

About the Videonics Video Control Unit

The Videonics Video Control Unit is more than just a video editor. A variety of other applications and expanded capabilities are available and more are planned for the future.

For example, Videonics CollectED turns the Video Control Unit into a video jukebox, capable of recording and collecting music videos (or other videos, such as operas or comedies), categorizing them by title and artist, and playing back the videos you choose from a list (just like a real jukebox — except you don't have to put in a quarter!). Graphics Libraries add additional title styles and graphics. Similarly, other Videonics applications give it additional functions for lasting value.

What *DirectED PLUS* does and how it works

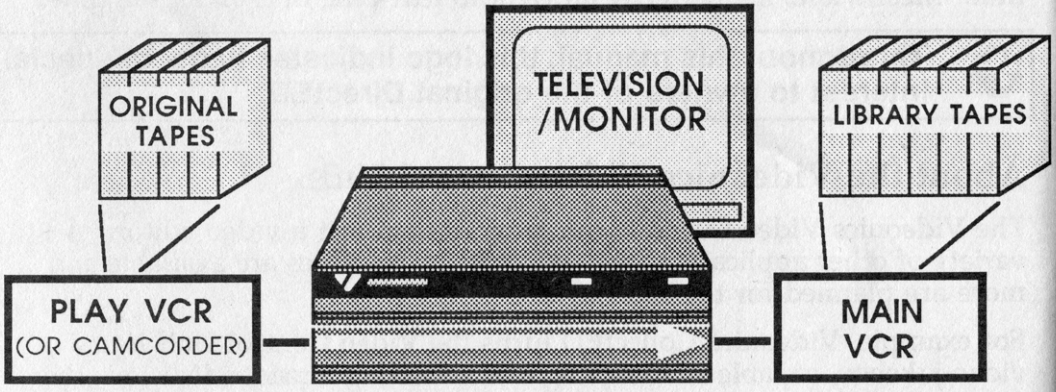
It is possible to edit videotapes manually. You connect a playback VCR to a recording VCR, view the tape, write down the location of each scene of interest, and then copy the scenes to a blank tape, one by one.

It sounds simple — until you try it! Then you discover the limitations of manual editing. Placing scenes accurately every time is difficult and requires great skill. If you miss, you may have to redo many scenes. Sometimes the transitions between scenes jump and contain "snow." And

unless you invest in several pieces of specialized equipment, your end results will lack the polish that special effects, titles, and graphics could add.

You may find yourself wishing for something that would handle the tricky parts for you — maybe a little computer that would remember where the scenes of interest are, cataloging them by name so they'd be easy to find later. Something that would work with the VCR and camcorder you already own, automatically placing your scenes where they belong. And maybe it could generate colorful titles, graphics, and special effects like fades and wipes.

Well, that's the idea behind *DirectED PLUS*.



DirectED PLUS connects to your television/monitor, your main VCR, and a second VCR (or camcorder) capable of playing your original tapes. It learns the infrared commands used by your VCR's remote control and uses them to control the editing process.

You create and edit video movies using *DirectED PLUS's* remote control, choosing actions from on-screen lists, called **menus**. A clear, easy to read manual guides you every step of the way. On-screen assistance is available at your fingertips, with a press of the HELP key on the remote control.

Editing starts with one or more **original** tapes. To make a movie, you begin by using *DirectED PLUS* to make a copy of each original, called a **dub**. You edit with the dub — the original remains safely stored away.

Next, you play the dub, looking for good **scenes**. You press one button to mark the start of each scene and another to mark its end. You can give

each scene a name (a handy feature, since *DirectED PLUS* can remember hundreds of scenes!). Once marked, each scene will automatically appear in a **movie** in the order you want. You can keep the movie as is or make it more elaborate by rearranging scenes and adding **titles, graphics**, and **special effects**.

Graphics are colorful still pictures which can be placed anywhere in the movie. *DirectED PLUS* comes with 20 graphics, 12 title styles, and 17 special effects (fades, wipes, etc.) — and you can add more with Videonics Graphics Libraries. The titles and graphics are brilliant — they're digitally generated in 64 colors. You can select the colors of the background and the titles and even place titles and graphics over your video scene!

You may preview the movie, make corrections, and create a **final production**. The production's scenes are copied *from the original* (not from the dub), for the best possible quality.

Making a production is simple because *DirectED PLUS* takes care of the details. Even if it takes many hours to make, your job is simple — all you do is follow the on-screen instructions, changing tapes as *DirectED PLUS* asks for them by name. You don't need to wait around while the production is assembled — a blinking light tells you when *DirectED PLUS* needs your help.

The Movie Library

DirectED PLUS maintains a **movie library** for you. You can have as many tapes as you want in your movie library.

The library contains a complete directory of all the dubs, scenes, movies, and productions you've made. They're cataloged by name, rather than by numerical codes, so they're easy to find later. You can store hundreds of scenes in your movie libraries! *DirectED PLUS* keeps track of them, presenting them to you in on-screen lists. This means that once you've marked a scene, you can use it again and again, in different movies — even years later.

Getting started: What to expect

Here are the steps you need to perform to set up and use *DirectED PLUS:*

• **Unpack and connect the unit:** Chapter 1 tells how to do this. It's very detailed and well illustrated to make it as simple as possible. Allow about 15 minutes if you're experienced with video equipment; an hour or so if you're not.

• **Discover how menus work:** Chapter 2 gives you a quick tour through the basics of using the remote control and the menus. It will take about 15 minutes.

• **Setup *DirectED PLUS* and adapt it to your VCR:** In Chapter 3, you use the setup menu to make *DirectED PLUS* work with your VCR. You tell *DirectED PLUS* some things about your system (whether your VCR and TV are mono or stereo, for example). Then you "teach" *DirectED PLUS* exactly how your VCR works — fast forward speed, which remote control keys are used, etc. This step is crucial because *DirectED PLUS* needs detailed knowledge of your VCR to guarantee precise operation later.

Allow an hour or two for this step. It's a one-time operation; you will probably never need to repeat it unless you change VCRs. Even if the unit is unplugged, it will remember the VCR's characteristics.

• **Read about how to use your VCR and other equipment when you're *not* using *DirectED PLUS*:** When you're not making movies, you can use your VCR and television without disconnecting the Video Control Unit. Chapter 4, which will take only a few minutes to read, shows how.

• **Make your first movie:** Now the fun begins as Chapter 5 shows how to make dubs, mark the selections you want, and make movies. Chapter 6 shows you how to add titles, graphics, and special effects. You can preview your movie and if there are any changes you'd like to make, Chapter 7 tells you how.

Plan on spending several sessions making your first movie. *We strongly recommend you make a few short, simple movies first!*

• **Make your first production:** Chapter 8 tells you how to turn your movie into a finished production, with all the scenes you marked placed in the order you requested, complete with titles, graphics, and special effects!

Depending on the complexity of the production, creating a final production may take anywhere from ten minutes to many, many hours. (This is another reason we strongly suggest you keep your first couple of movies short and simple — you will soon learn which editing decisions cause longer production times.)

Using (or not using) the manual

Depending on how you like to learn, you can make movies with or without the manual. We recommend the manual, of course. If you try it on your own, remember you can press HELP for more information. In any case, we strongly recommend you review the manual later, as it's loaded with hints and ideas.

Videonics *HelpLine*

Answers to your questions are only a phone call away. The Videonics ***HelpLine*** is staffed by experts who are skilled at answering customer questions. For the phone number, hours, and policies, see the enclosed pamphlet, "Using *DirectED PLUS* Successfully," or call Videonics.

* Note: ***HelpLine*** support may not be available outside the United States. Non-U.S. customers should ask their Videonics dealer or distributor for information about local support.

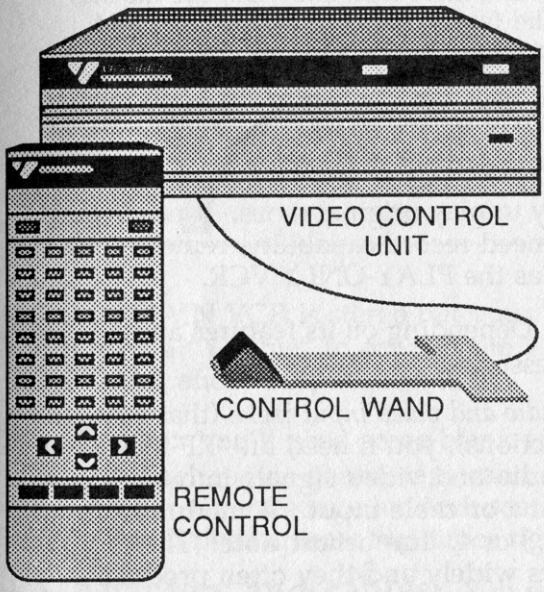
Chapter 1

Getting Started with *DirectED PLUS*

This chapter will show you how to connect DirectED PLUS to your home video system. We recommend you follow this manual step-by-step.

If you already own Videonics DirectED and have set it up with your VCR, you can skip to Chapter 3!

Important: Watch the *"Getting StartED"* tape before you begin. The video material starts after the "Getting StartED data."



You'll need these supplies that come with *DirectED PLUS* and the Video Control Unit:

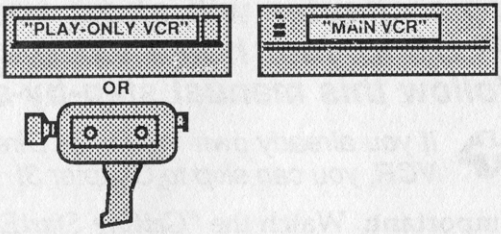
- Videonics Video Control Unit
- Videonics remote control
- Control wand
- *Director's Manual* (this book)
- *"Using DirectED PLUS Successfully" brochure*
- *DirectED PLUS "Getting StartED"* tape
- 2 cables and 2 batteries
- Self-adhesive labels for your movie library tapes

Note: In some countries, the supplies that are included will vary.

Note: You may need some additional supplies, as described in the following pages.

What you need *in addition to* what comes with the Video Control Unit and *DirectED PLUS*:

1 • A VCR and a camcorder (or two VCRs).



• The MAIN VCR is used for recording and editing tapes. It must have a wireless remote control. It also must have these features (virtually all VCRs do): The ability to record; ordinary play-search (cue and review); and audio and video input and output connectors.

Director's Hint

If you have more than one VCR, use the one with the fastest search, fast forward, and rewind as the MAIN VCR.

Note: If your MAIN VCR uses Beta or 8-mm (Video8) format, you will need access to a VHS VCR so you can make a copy of the *Getting StartED* tape as described in Chapter 3.

• The PLAY-ONLY VCR is used only to play original tapes. It needs audio and video output jacks. It does not need record capability, remote control, or search. A camcorder can be used as the PLAY-ONLY VCR.

2 • A television or monitor: Depending on its features and connectors, you may need some accessories:

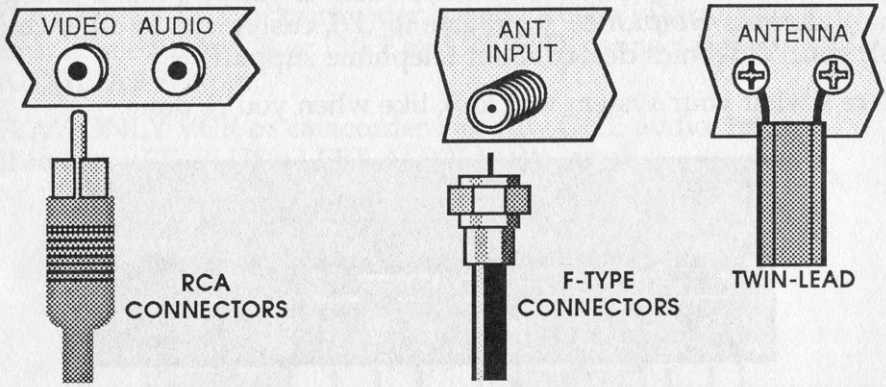
• If your television does not have *audio and video input* jacks (that is, it *only* has antenna and/or cable TV connections), you'll need an "RF modulator." An "RF modulator" converts the audio and video signals into something that can feed your television's antenna or cable input. A modulator generally puts the signal on channel 3 or 4. **Important note:** The performance of RF modulators varies widely and they often produce a mediocre picture. While many television sets will work satisfactorily with a modulator, the best solution is a monitor with a VIDEO input. The next best solution is to use an extra VCR or camcorder as a modulator. Some camcorders come with an accessory modulator to allow you to play tapes, using the camcorder, on any television. You may be able to use it to

connect the Video Control Unit to your television.

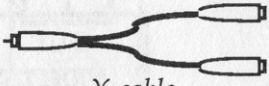
The difference between RF and video/audio connectors

All the connections on the Videonics Video Control Unit are "video and audio" inputs and outputs, as opposed to the "RF connections" which are used to connect to an antenna or cable TV. Everything you connect to the Videonics unit must also use video and audio connections.

VIDEO/AUDIO CONNECTIONS **RF CONNECTIONS**



• If your MAIN VCR is stereo but your TV isn't, you'll need a "Y-cable" to connect the Videonics unit's stereo audio outputs together.



Y-cable

3 • Tapes: You'll need some blank videotapes to create a "Movie Library." Each movie library tape can hold many scenes — that is, you won't need a separate tape for each scene (unless your scenes are two hours long!). You'll need at least two tapes right away.

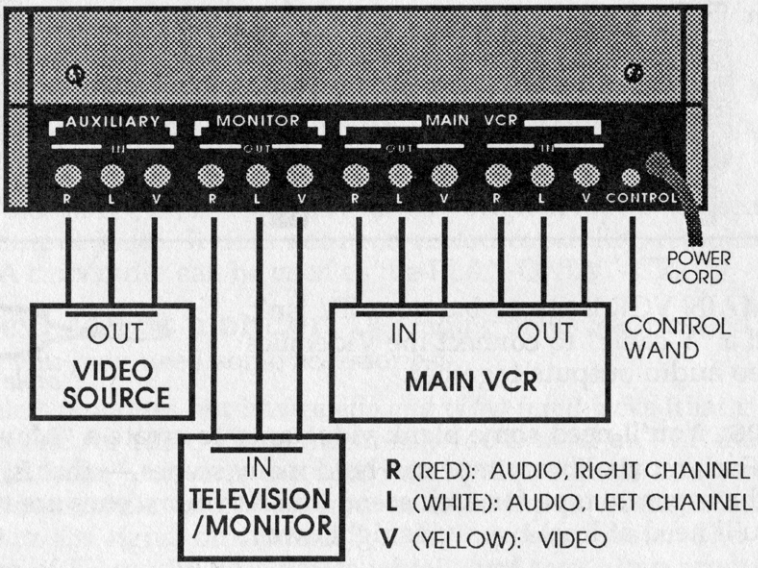
4 • Adapters and cables: You will need a total of four video-audio connecting cables (commonly called "dubbing" cables). Two come with the Videonics Video Control Unit. You probably already have two more since they are packed with many VCRs, camcorders, and monitors. Note that different countries use different connectors; your Videonics dealer can help you determine what you need.

Connecting your equipment to the Video Control Unit

Place the Videonics Video Control Unit somewhere near your MAIN VCR, in a spot with good ventilation and away from direct sunlight. Be sure the cooling slots are unobstructed and don't place the unit on top of a VCR.

The rest of this chapter explains, in detail, how to connect your equipment to the Videonics Video Control Unit. It is important that everything is connected properly. Unless you are an expert, this could take an hour or more — but it only needs to be done once! If you run into a problem, call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** (available to U.S. customers; in other countries, ask your Videonics dealer about telephone support).

Here's what your system will look like when you're done:

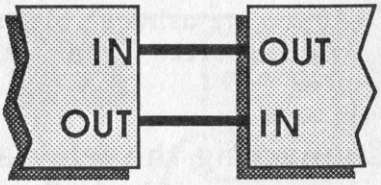


This connection scheme will allow you to:

- Use *DirectED PLUS* to edit videos.
- Watch videotapes (including *DirectED PLUS* productions) on the MAIN VCR or the PLAY-ONLY VCR without changing the connections.
- Copy tapes from the PLAY-ONLY to the MAIN VCR without changing the connections.

Director's Hint

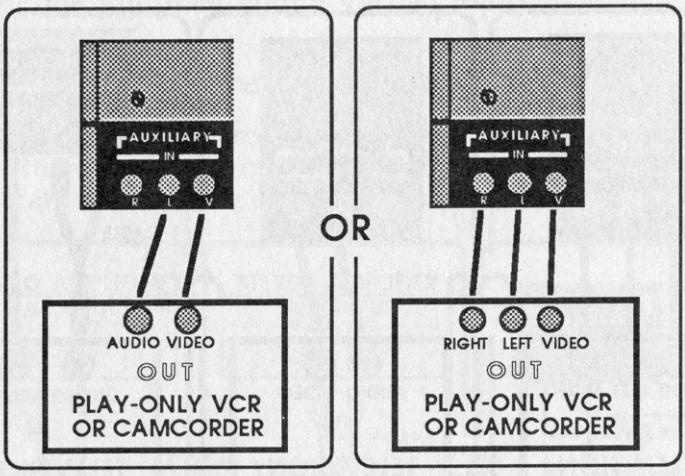
Most video equipment manufacturers use IN and OUT the same way: OUT on one machine is connected to IN on the other.



Connecting the PLAY-ONLY VCR

If your PLAY-ONLY VCR or camcorder has STEREO audio outputs (two connections, labeled L and R or LEFT and RIGHT), connect it to *DirectED PLUS*'s **AUXILIARY** input.

If your PLAY-ONLY VCR or camcorder has only ONE audio output, connect it to *DirectED PLUS*'s **LEFT** AUXILIARY input.



Hookup for mono video source *Hookup for stereo video source*

More complicated connections

- **If you are using a video signal enhancer:** Connect it between the PLAY-ONLY VCR and AUXILIARY IN.

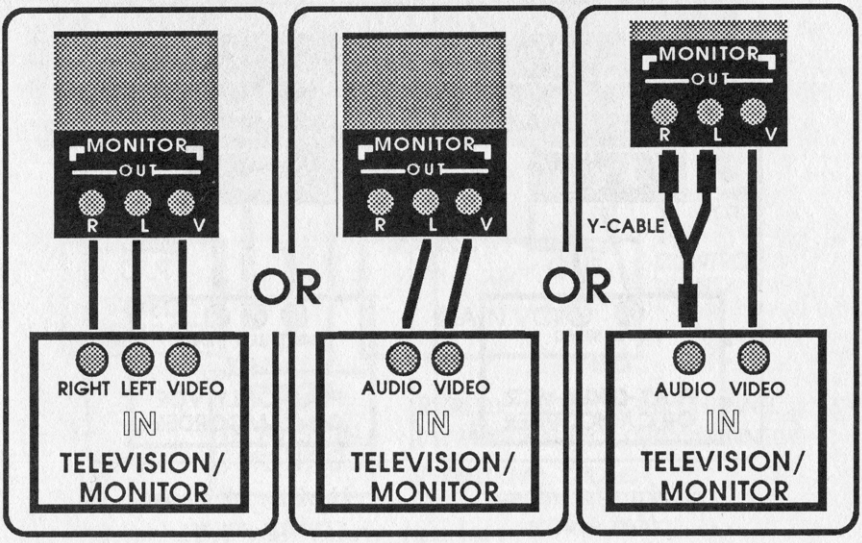
- **If you are using a video switcher to select between more than one video source:** Connect it between the video source and AUXILIARY IN.

Connecting the television/monitor

- **If you have a television or monitor with audio and video inputs,** connect it to the MONITOR output as shown, depending on whether the television and MAIN VCR are mono or stereo.

! Important! **Be sure to set the monitor's input switch so it displays the correct signal.**

Typically, the switch is labeled TV/VIDEO or ANTENNA/VIDEO or AV or AUX. See your monitor's instruction manual for details.

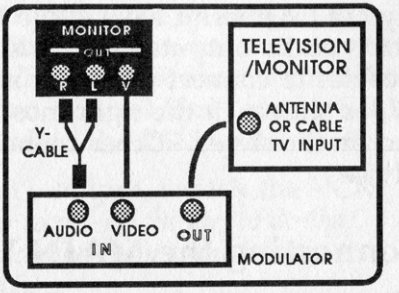


*Use this connection if you have a **stereo** television/monitor.*

*Use this connection if you have a **mono** TV and a **mono** MAIN VCR.*

*Use this connection if you have a **mono** TV and a **stereo** MAIN VCR.*

• **If your television/monitor has no separate audio-video inputs** (that is, it has only antenna and cable inputs), you will need an "RF modulator" to convert the audio and video signals into something that can feed your television's antenna or cable input. In some cases, you can also use a spare VCR or camcorder as a modulator.

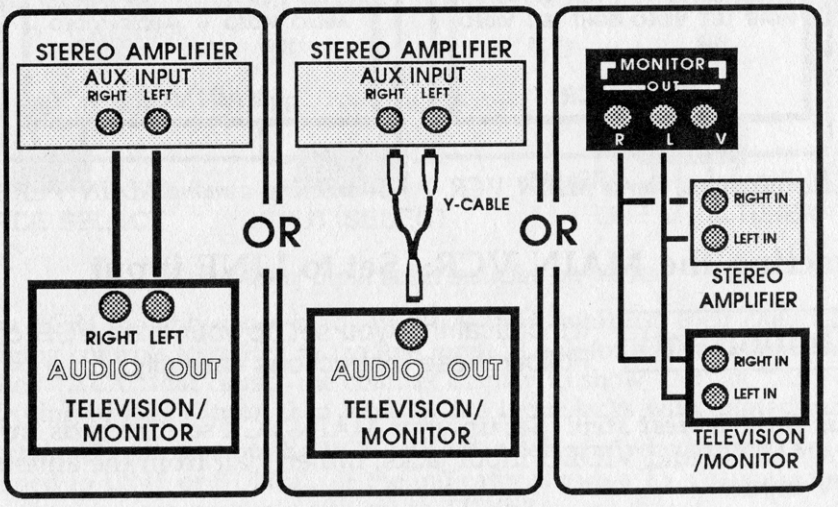


If you use a modulator, you may also need an "A-B switch" to allow you to switch between viewing the modulator's output and viewing the regular antenna/cable connection.

Important: **The picture quality with a modulator/television combination is rarely as good as the picture you will see when connecting directly to a television/monitor equipped with a VIDEO input.**

Connecting a stereo receiver or amplifier

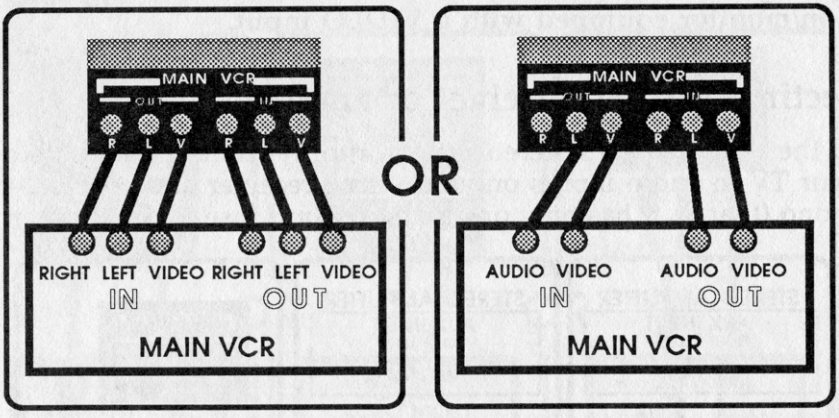
To send the sound to your stereo system, simply connect the audio outputs from your TV to audio inputs on your stereo receiver or amplifier. If your TV is mono (that is, it has only one audio output), use a "Y" adapter.



If your TV doesn't have audio outputs, you can connect the Video Control Unit's audio outputs directly to the stereo receiver or amplifier. If you use Y-cables to connect the unit's audio outputs to *both* the receiver and the TV, as shown in the right-most diagram, the sound will play on the TV and on the stereo. Other connections are possible — see your dealer for advice.

Connecting the MAIN VCR

Determine whether your MAIN VCR has mono or stereo sound. Stereo machines are generally marked "STEREO" on the front panel. Their audio input and output jacks are labeled "LEFT" and "RIGHT" (or "L" and "R"). If you have a mono machine, use the Video Control Unit's left ("L") connections and leave the right ("R") unconnected.



Connecting a stereo MAIN VCR *Connecting a mono MAIN VCR*

Connecting the MAIN VCR: Set to LINE input

! Important! It's critical that you set up your main VCR correctly. Follow these instructions carefully.

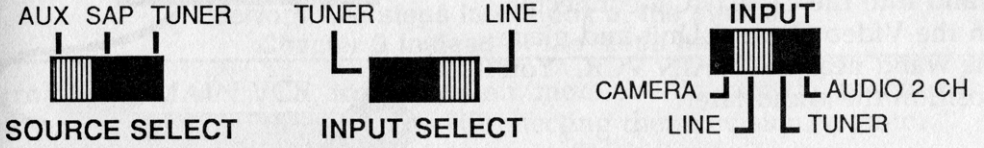
• ***This is the trickiest step!*** Set up your MAIN VCR so it records from its separate AUDIO and VIDEO input jacks, rather than from the antenna or cable TV input.

Here's the concept: When you record a TV program, the VCR is set to record from its own *tuner;* that is, to record channel 5 or whatever you have the tuner set to. When you use *DirectED PLUS*, the VCR must record the video signal coming from the Videonics Video Control Unit, connected to your VCR's video/audio inputs, commonly called the *line* inputs.

To make your VCR record the Videonics unit's output, switch the VCR input to LINE. *Note that you will still be able to record off the air; to do that, you'll just switch from LINE back to TUNER; and when you want to use DirectED PLUS again, you'll switch back to LINE.*

All VCRs have some method for making this change but naturally, each one does it a little differently! Here are the most common methods; the manual that came with your VCR may provide more information. Look for a section called "Recording from another VCR" or "Recording from a camera," or "Video dubbing." Your electronics dealer may also be able to help.

- A few VCRs automatically switch to the input jacks as soon as you plug something into them so all you need to do is wire up the system as indicated in this chapter.
- On others, you'll need to set a switch. The markings on these switches vary. Look for the label "INPUT SELECT" or a switch with settings such as "LINE," "TUNER," "AUX," "EXT," "AV," or "CAMERA." Generally, you'll set the switch to "LINE" or "AUX." If there is no "LINE" or "AUX" position, set it to "CAMERA."



Examples of input select switches on VCRs

- Some VCRs (notably those made by RCA or Hitachi) use their channel changing controls to switch to the line input. Look for a channel button marked "AUX" that causes the channel display to show "A1" or "A9" or something of that nature; then look for the input jacks with related markings.
- The channel indicator on the VCR will often tell you whether you are switched to LINE or TUNER. If the indicator shows a TV channel (3, 7, 11, etc.), then you are probably still set to TUNER.

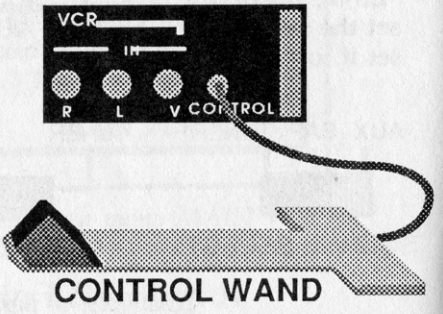
Connecting the MAIN VCR: Other controls

- If your VCR has any function which automatically stops the tape at certain tape counter settings ("MEMORY," "RETURN," "INDEX," etc.), turn the feature off. On a few VCRs, the only way to turn MEMORY off is to turn off the tape counter.

- If your VCR has a SHARPNESS (or PICTURE) control, adjust it toward the center. When you start *DirectED PLUS* using the *Getting Started* tape, you may need to adjust this control. On some VCRs, the control is located behind a door on the top of the unit.
- ***Important!*** **Set the recording speed of your MAIN VCR to standard speed** (SP for VHS and 8-mm, B-II for Beta).
- If your MAIN VCR has an "EDIT" switch, turn it on (set it to the EDIT position). This changes the way the video signal is processed to improve the quality of video copies.
- If your VCR has on-screen programming or any type of on-screen display, turn it off.

Connecting the control wand

DirectED PLUS uses a "control wand" to control your MAIN VCR. Plug the wand into the CONTROL connector on the Video Control Unit and place the wand near the MAIN VCR. You'll position the wand later.



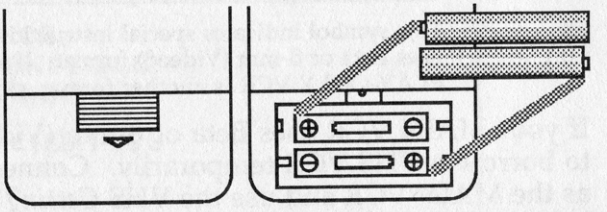
Power connection

Connect the power cord to a household outlet (check the label on the back of the unit for the voltage requirements).

IMPORTANT! Like an electric clock, the Videonics unit requires a small amount of continuous power, so be sure you use an *unswitched* outlet — that is, one that remains on all the time.

Remote control

Open the battery compartment by sliding the cover in the direction indicated by the arrow. Insert batteries as shown.



Note that the remote control will not operate the Video Control Unit until you have completed the setup steps in Chapter 3.

Turning *DirectED PLUS* on

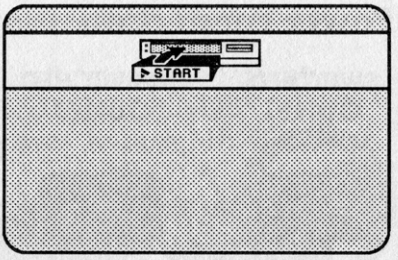
If you already own Videonics DirectED or CollectED, perform the steps in the box at the start of Chapter 3 instead of the steps here.

Turn on the MAIN VCR and television/monitor. Be sure the monitor is set to view the VIDEO input (see "Connecting the television/monitor," earlier in this chapter).

Plug the Videonics Video Control Unit in. The green power light on the Videonics unit should be on. If not, confirm that it's plugged in to a working outlet.

Note: A word about turning *DirectED PLUS off!* When you first plug the Video Control Unit in, note that the PWR key doesn't do anything. This is normal. PWR will operate after you have completely set up the unit, In the meantime, it's perfectly all right to leave the unit on all the time.

This diagram (OR a written message asking you to insert the *Getting StartED* tape, rewind and press PLAY) will appear in a yellow band at the top of the screen. *(If neither appears, see the troubleshooting hints at the end of the chapter.)* Insert the *DirectED PLUS Getting StartED* tape in the MAIN VCR, rewind it, and press the VCR's PLAY button.

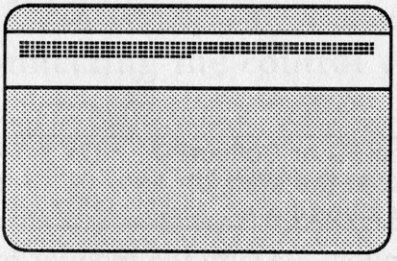


The "Getting StartED" diagram

If you own another Videonics application such as DirectED or CollectED, it also came with a *Getting StartED* tape. In this case, be sure you use the ***DirectED PLUS*** *Getting StartED* tape.

8 ○ β This symbol indicates special instructions that apply to you if your MAIN VCR uses Beta or 8-mm (Video8) format. If your MAIN VCR is VHS and your PLAY-ONLY VCR is another format, skip these instructions.

If your MAIN VCR uses Beta or 8-mm (Video8) tape format, you will need to borrow a VHS VCR temporarily. Connect it to the Video Control Unit as the MAIN VCR and use the VHS *Getting StartED* tape.



Dashes will fill in the yellow bar in a pattern like this (or in some other pattern).

DirectED PLUS will prepare itself. The screen may jump and roll a bit. Within a few seconds, the instructions will disappear from the yellow band and the band will begin to fill with black dashes. If the dashes don't appear or appear very slowly, adjust the **tracking** control on your MAIN VCR until they do. If they still don't appear, see the "troubleshooting hints" at the end of the chapter.

How it works

The *Getting StartED* tape contains the software that makes *DirectED PLUS* work. It operates much like a computer's floppy disk. The dashes tell you that data is rolling into the Video Control Unit's memory from the *Getting StartED* tape. Each dash represents a block of data. Blocks are checked for accuracy as they come in; when a block is confirmed as accurate, it appears on the screen. Missing or inaccurate blocks are no problem because each block is recorded many times on the tape and *DirectED PLUS* will keep bringing data in until everything has loaded completely.

In less than three minutes, you should see a menu similar to this:

```
© 1989 Videonics

Watch a tape on MAIN VCR
Watch a tape on PLAY-ONLY VCR
Watch a DirectED PLUS movie

Make movies with DirectED PLUS

Start a new application

Use ^ and v to choose an action, then press
SELECT. Press HELP for more information.
```

The menu may not look *exactly* like this but should be very similar. If you have this menu, go on to the next chapter. If not, refer to the trouble-shooting hints.

?! Troubleshooting hints

The most common cause of problems: If your VCR has an input switch, confirm that it's set to "LINE" (see the section, "Connecting the MAIN VCR: Set to LINE input" in this chapter).

The *Getting StartED* tape must be the same tape format (VHS, Beta, or 8-mm) as your *MAIN* VCR. Contact your dealer or Videonics if it's not.

The second most common cause of problems: If your television/monitor has switchable inputs, be sure the switches are set so that you're viewing the input to which the Video Control Unit is connected. (If you're plugged into VIDEO 1, for instance, be sure the television is switched to VIDEO 1.)

See the manual that came with your TV. If you're using a modulator, switch to the TV channel required by the modulator (usually 3 or 4).

If the diagram that tells you to insert the *Getting StartED* tape doesn't appear on the screen, check to be sure the television is on and that the Video Control Unit's power light is shining. Be sure the VCR is on. Still no diagram? Check your connections. Check for a bad cable by swapping video and audio cables. If the problem goes away when you switch cables, the cable is bad. Finally, be sure the unit is well ventilated, out of direct sunlight, and its cooling slots are clear.

If you see the diagram that tells you to insert the *Getting StartED* tape but after you press PLAY, the diagram never disappears, it means the video signal is not getting from the MAIN VCR to the Video Control Unit. Check the video (yellow) connection from the MAIN VCR's VIDEO OUT jacks to the unit's MAIN VCR IN (V).

You should have a menu on the screen a few minutes after you inserted the *Getting StartED* tape and pressed PLAY (the data is recorded on the first three or four minutes of the tape). If not, try once more. Be sure to rewind the tape to the beginning. If it still doesn't work:

• Turn off on-screen programming or display features on the MAIN VCR.

• Adjust your VCR's TRACKING control. Try various settings while the *Getting StartED* tape plays. Leave it at a setting that causes the dashes to fill in quickly. Rewind the tape and press PLAY again and the dashes should fill in quickly.

• If your VCR has a SHARPNESS control, try various settings while the *Getting StartED* tape plays. Leave it at a setting that causes the dashes to fill in quickly. Rewind the tape and press PLAY again.

• If it still doesn't work, connect the VCR directly to your television set and watch the tape. The first few minutes should contain *Getting StartED* data with a band of rapidly changing black and white dashes filling most of the screen. Fast forward past that section. Adjust the **playback tracking** on the VCR to eliminate any bands of "snow" in the video. Then reconnect the Video Control Unit as before. Unplug it for a few seconds and plug it in again. Rewind the *Getting Started* tape and press PLAY.

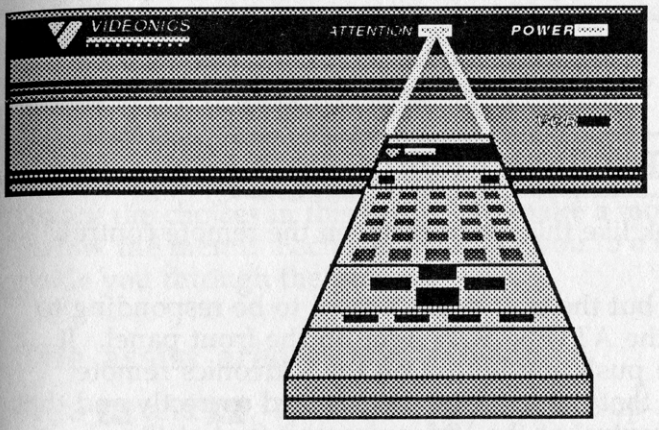
• If you are still having problems, call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** (***HelpLine*** service is available to U.S. customers; in other countries, ask your Videonics dealer about telephone support).

Chapter 2

Using menus and the remote control

If you already own Videonics DirectED and have set it up with your VCR, you can skip to Chapter 3. Or you can review this chapter to discover features you missed the first time around!

The remote control



To use the Videonics wireless remote control, aim it at the Videonics *Video Control Unit* (not at the VCR). The ATTENTION light on the Video Control Unit will flash as you press the keys. **Note that the light won't flash until you have loaded the *Getting StartED* tape as described in Chapter 1 and there is a menu on the screen.**

The inside back cover of this manual has a picture of the remote control and a description of all its keys. The control has some unique features:

• Where appropriate, you can *repeat a key* by simply holding it down. You can adjust whether the keys repeat, and how quickly (using a menu described in Chapter 3).

• The Videonics Video Control Unit includes *"type-ahead."* If you type faster than the rest of your video system can respond, *DirectED PLUS* and the Video Control Unit save the extra keys until the rest of the system is ready.

Menus

Let's look at a **menu**. If you followed the instructions in Chapter 1, you have one approximately like this on your television screen:

```
© 1989 Videonics

Watch a tape on MAIN VCR
Watch a tape on PLAY-ONLY VCR
Watch a DirectED PLUS movie

Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Start a new application

Use ▲ and ▼ to choose an action, then press
SELECT. Press HELP for more information.
```

Don't be concerned if your menu looks a little different. The lines will vary, depending on which Videonics products you have purchased.

?! Troubleshooting hints

• If your screen doesn't look like this, press PWR on the remote control. Press it again if necessary.

• If you *do* have this menu but the unit doesn't seem to be responding to the remote control, watch the ATTENTION light on the front panel. It should flash each time you push any button on the Videonics remote control. If it doesn't, check that the batteries are inserted correctly and that you're aiming the remote control at the Videonics unit (not at the television or the VCR).

• If you can't get anything on the screen, be sure the Video Control Unit is on (its POWER light should be glowing) and that your television/monitor and VCR are on. Read the troubleshooting hints at the end of Chapter 1.

The "top menu"

You are looking at a "menu"—a list of available choices. Notice that one of the choices is highlighted. **The highlighted line is what *DirectED PLUS* will do if you press SELECT.**

Aim the remote control at the Video Control Unit and press the ▼ button. Press the ▲ button. Notice that the arrow keys just change the highlighted line (what you are *about to do*). Nothing is actually *done* until you press SELECT.

Try it. Choose "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**." (Use ▲ and ▼ to highlight the choice and press SELECT.) If *DirectED PLUS* asks for "Tape 1" and you haven't made one, press CANCEL.

Another menu appears offering more choices:

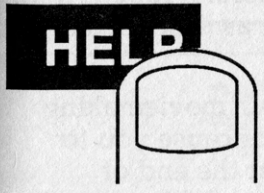
```
▼ Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

Notice the choices in this menu. **To make a movie, all you need to do is follow the menu!** Each step will take you to a series of sub-menus that will guide you through the process.

The assist area

Press ▲ and ▼. Notice that as you move up and down the screen, the bottom of the screen changes. The **assist area**, as we call it, briefly describes the highlighted choice. In other words, it describes what would happen if you pressed SELECT.

If the assist area is not complete enough, you can get more information by pressing HELP. Try it now.



Help when you need it

Help is available *anytime you are looking at a menu or list*. If you want help other times (while you're recording, for instance), press CANCEL, then press HELP.

HELP always tells you two things. The top of the HELP screen tells you *where you were* (that is, the purpose of the menu you were using). The

bottom tells you *what you were about to do* (that is, the purpose of the line that was highlighted).

If you can't find what you need, press **HELP** again. You'll see the **Help Index**, a list of HELP topics. You can then read any of the topics listed (the screen will tell you how). HELP screens give you the essentials. For still more information, come back here, to the Director's Manual.

Experiment with HELP for a while. When you're done, press **CANCEL** to return to the *DirectED PLUS* menu.

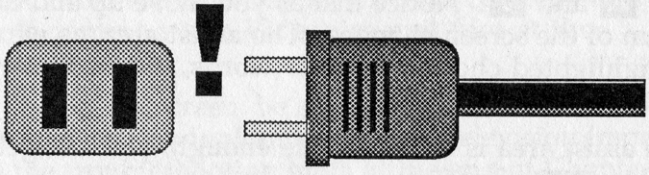
CANCEL

The **CANCEL** key means "never mind!" If you are looking at a menu it takes you to the **previous** menu (that is, it does the same thing as selecting "**Done**.") If you are in the middle of doing something, it stops and returns you to the menu you came from. Anytime **CANCEL** doesn't give you a menu, press it again.

Director's Hint

You can always return to the "top" menu by pressing **CANCEL** several times.

If the Video Control Unit loses power...



If the unit is unplugged or there is a power failure, you will need to restart *DirectED PLUS* by inserting the *Getting StartED* tape (or Library Tape 1, if you've made one) in the MAIN VCR and pressing PLAY, as described at the end of Chapter 1.

Note that when you turn *DirectED PLUS* off, it saves your moviemaking data on videotape so that power failures will generally not cause you to lose editing work. The section, "About Library Tape 1," at the end of Chapter 3, explains this in more detail.

Chapter 3
Training *DirectED PLUS*

Now that you have connected the Video Control Unit and learned how menus work, the next step is to "teach" the unit a few things about your equipment.

If you already have DirectED or another Videonics application, follow the directions in this box:

• Go to the top menu (by pressing CANCEL several times).

If the menu includes "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**," choose it and skip the rest of the instructions in this box.

If the menu includes "**Start a new application**," choose it and follow the on-screen directions (or diagram), telling you to insert the tape.

If not, press PWR to turn DirectED off (following on-screen instructions, if there are any), unplug the unit and plug it back in.

• You should see a screen with a yellow bar and a message or a picture that asks you to insert the *Getting StartED* tape. Insert the *DirectED PLUS Getting StartED* tape (not the DirectED *Getting StartED* tape), rewind it to the beginning, and press PLAY. In a few minutes, you should see the top menu. If you don't, refer to the troubleshooting section at the end of Chapter 1.

• Follow the rest of this chapter. If you had previously set up DirectED to work with your VCR and you have not changed the MAIN VCR, you can skip to the section, "Learning the VCR's remote control," near the end. You must repeat the "Learn VCR" sections through the end of the chapter to take advantage of improvements we've made.

8 ○ β This symbol indicates special instructions that apply to you if your MAIN VCR uses Beta or 8-mm (Video8) format. If your MAIN VCR is VHS and your PLAY-ONLY VCR is another format, skip these instructions.

Borrow a VHS-format VCR and get a VHS tape. Follow these steps exactly:

• Copy the *Getting StartED* tape: Connect the output of the VHS VCR to the input of your VCR. Put the *Getting StartED* tape in the VHS VCR and a blank

tape (20 minutes or more in length) in your VCR. Rewind both tapes. Press PLAY on the VHS machine and RECORD on your machine. It is important to press both buttons at about the same time. Allow the recording to proceed for at least 25 minutes.

• Connect your VCR to the Videonics unit and use the copied *Getting StartED* tape to complete the rest of this chapter.

Training *DirectED PLUS*

This is a one-time procedure — once you've completed the steps in this chapter, you'll never need to repeat them unless you change VCRs.

Note that the last steps in this chapter ("**Learn VCR record characteristics**") can take a while, depending on whether everything was set up correctly.

Start from the "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**" menu:

```
Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

If this menu is not on the screen, follow the instructions in Chapter 2.

Select "**Setup or change system**." You'll see this menu:

```
Setup or change system
Normal or Express mode ..................... Normal
Remote control key speed ................... None
Show menu highlight bar .................... Yes

Setup or change PLAY-ONLY VCR
Setup or change MAIN VCR
Done
```

Normal and express modes

Highlight "**Normal or express mode**" (it should already be highlighted) and press SELECT. Notice what happened to the word **Normal** at the right side of the line. It appears in a box to indicate you can change it. Press ▲ and ▼. This takes you through the available choices (in this case there are only two). Press SELECT to pick the one that's showing.

There's another method: Press CHG DISP (which stands for "change display"). You are now looking at a list of available choices (again, there are only two). Use ▲ and ▼ to highlight one, then press SELECT.

SHORT CUT: The following section describes **Normal** and **Express** modes. To save time, you can just choose **Normal** and jump ahead to "**Setting the speed of the remote control keys.**" Or, to find out about **Express** mode, read on ....

Choose **Express**. You should now be back at the menu. Notice the menu has changed (if not, be sure you really picked **Express** mode):

```
▼ Setup or change system
M: Normal or Express mode ..................... Express
R: Remote control key speed ......................None
H: Show menu highlight bar ........................ Yes

X: Setup or change video source
Y: Setup or change MAIN VCR
Z: Done
```

In this mode, you can use the *letter* keys on the remote control to make a choice instead of using the arrow keys with SELECT. It's a convenient timesaver. If for now, you'd like to work in **Normal** mode, press ▲ to go back to the top line and press SELECT. You can switch modes the same way as before (CHG DISP, ▲ or ▼, SELECT).

Setting the speed of the remote control keys

This menu line, "**Remote control key speed,**" allows you to determine whether the buttons on the remote control repeat when you hold them down. When the speed is set to "**None,**" they don't repeat — each time you press a button, *DirectED PLUS* acts on it once, and only once,

no matter how long you hold it down. If you set the speed to "**Slow**," "**Medium**," or "**Fast**," the key will begin to repeat after you hold it down for a second or so. The speed setting determines how long you must hold the key before it starts repeating. It also sets how quickly the key repeats once it starts. All the keys repeat when the feature is turned on except SELECT, CHG DISP, AUDIO, CANCEL, SHIFT, PWR, and HELP.

To set the speed, use the same method as before: Use ▲ and ▼ to highlight the line and press SELECT. Then use ▲ and ▼ to switch through the available selections. Or press CHG DISP to pick from a list. We suggest you start with "**Slow**" or "**Medium**." If you sometimes get double letters when you press keys, use a slower speed.

Changing the menu highlight

Choose "**Show menu highlight bar**" and experiment with its setting. When set to "**Yes**," *DirectED PLUS* highlights the menu line with white letters on a dark gray bar that crosses the screen; set to "**No**," the highlighted line appears in white letters without the gray bar. Both highlights mean the same thing — choose whichever one you like best.

Setting the VCRs up

Choose "**Setup or change PLAY-ONLY VCR**."

```
▼ Setup or change PLAY-ONLY VCR

Choose name of VCR ..............................PLAY-ONLY
Tape format ..................................................VHS
Stereo or mono ..................................... .......Stereo
Done
```

Naming the video source

When *DirectED PLUS* is new, the video source is called "**PLAY-ONLY**" (because it's often a VCR used only to play tapes). You can supply a more interesting name, (up to 12 letters and numbers). You could call it "Top Deck" or "Silver" (or "Ebenezer," if you like)!

To enter a new name, highlight the line, "**Enter name of video source**" and press SELECT. The area at the right will be boxed. You can type in any name, using the letter and number keys. If you want a capital letter (or punctuation mark), *press and release* SHIFT, *then* type the letter (or number). Don't hold SHIFT while you press the letter. You can also use INS and DEL to edit what you type. Press SELECT when you're done.

Stereo or mono

Indicate whether your PLAY-ONLY VCR is stereo or mono. If the source has two AUDIO OUTPUTS labeled LEFT and RIGHT or L and R, then it's stereo. Stereo VCRs will usually be labeled "stereo" somewhere on the front panel. If you have a stereo source but you don't use the stereo feature (that is, you only connect the left audio output), choose "**Mono**"). When you're finished, select "**Done**."

Setup or change MAIN VCR

Next, you'll want to do the same for the MAIN VCR:

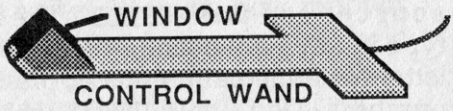
```
Setup or change MAIN VCR
Enter name of VCR ..................................... MAIN
Choose tape format ..................................... VHS
Enter new library tape length ......................... 120
Choose stereo or mono ..............................Stereo
Learn VCR remote control
Check VCR remote control
Learn VCR PLAY characteristics
Learn VCR RECORD characteristics
Done
```

Everything here is the same as for the video source with a few additions: tape format and length, and "learning" the VCR's characteristics.

Tape length

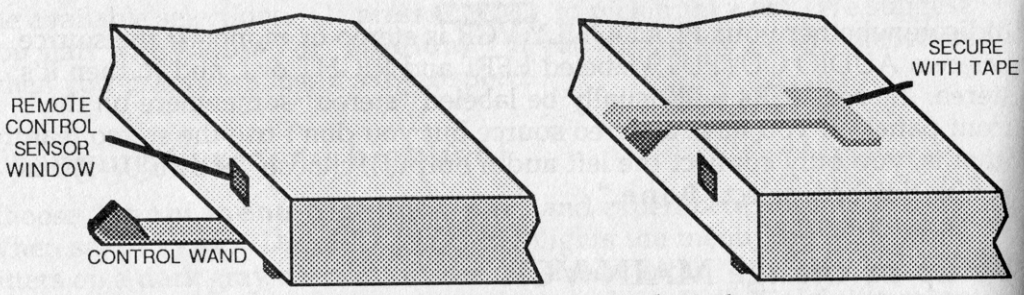
Choose the videocassette length you use most often, in minutes. In most cases, this will be 120.

Positioning the control wand



The Video Control Unit uses a *control wand* to control the MAIN VCR's actions.

The wand emits an invisible infrared beam that mimics the remote control that came with your VCR. In order for it to work properly, you'll need to position it so its window faces the receiving window of your VCR.



Two ways to position the control wand

Find the remote control window on the front of your MAIN VCR. It's generally a small square or rectangular dark plastic window. It may be labeled something like "REMOTE," "REMOTE SENSOR," "INFRARED WINDOW," or "CONTROL WINDOW." Or it may not be labeled at all. Find a place to mount the control wand so its window is aimed at the VCR's window.

! Important!

If you have more than one VCR with compatible remote controls — that is, if both respond when the remote control for one is used — then you'll need to be sure the second VCR doesn't accidentally pick up the Video Control Unit's commands from the control wand. Position the units so there's no chance the second VCR can pick up the control wand's light beam. Try covering the second VCR's sensor window with black tape or foil (but note that it is difficult or impossible to block some VCR's sensors entirely).

Learning the VCR's remote control

To help the Video Control Unit learn how to control your MAIN VCR, choose "**Learn VCR remote control**" and follow the instructions on the

screen: When *DirectED PLUS* asks you to, insert the *Getting StartED* tape in the MAIN VCR. Rewind it to the beginning and press PLAY.

If DirectED reports a problem learning the remote control, check that the MAIN VCR and the control wand are connected properly. Try again. Be sure you rewind the *Getting StartED* tape to the beginning before you press PLAY. If there's still a problem read "Adjusting the control wand's position."

How it works

There are over 500 *current* VCR models sold in the United States. Each manufacturer uses a somewhat different method for controlling their VCRs and often, different models of one brand will use different techniques.

DirectED PLUS must figure out how your VCR works. To do this, it asks you to play the *Getting Started* tape. While the tape plays, it sends each manufacturer's STOP command to the control wand. At the same time, it electronically watches the video coming from the tape. When the video stops, it knows that the last STOP command it sent works on your VCR and can deduce the rest of the control codes.

Next, you will help the Video Control Unit learn your VCR's characteristics. In this step, the unit sends a series of commands to the MAIN VCR and, based on the video coming back from the VCR, deduces how your VCR behaves. It memorizes about three dozen operational characteristics and stores them inside the Video Control Unit.

Checking the VCR control

Choose "**Check UCR remote control**" and follow the instructions. *DirectED PLUS* will put the VCR through its paces. At the same time, it will tell you, on the television screen, what the VCR should be doing. Your job is to make sure the VCR is doing what *DirectED PLUS* expects. It's a good idea to repeat this step several times. It should pass perfectly each time. If there are any failures, try a new wand position.

?! Troubleshooting hints

Adjusting the control wand's position

Symptom: I get the message "Insert the Getting StartED tape in the MAIN VCR. Rewind to the beginning and press PLAY." But then it never goes away, even after I press PLAY!

OR: I get a blue message that says, "Problem recognizing library tape. Tape is from another library."

• First, make sure you inserted the correct *Getting StartED* tape and be sure you pressed PLAY (not SELECT).

• Next, check the **tracking** control on the MAIN VCR. You may need to adjust it to match the *Getting StartED* tape. If necessary, play the tape directly from the VCR to your television and adjust the tracking to eliminate the bands of snow caused by incorrect tracking.

• Finally, you may need to clean the heads on your VCR.

Symptom: During the step "Learn VCR remote control," I get a blue message that says, "Problem learning remote control codes."

• If the VCR doesn't do anything at all, confirm that the control wand is plugged into the Videonics Video Control Unit.

• On some VCRs, the remote control sensor window is hard to find. Use the remote control that *came with your VCR* to find it: Aim the control at specific areas of the VCR to discover where it responds and where it doesn't.

CONTROL WAND (SIDE VIEW)

• Aiming the control wand is generally not tricky. The beam shines straight out from the wand's rear window and spreads about 30 degrees.

Symptom: The "Learn VCR remote control" step completes but "Check VCR remote control" won't work consistently.

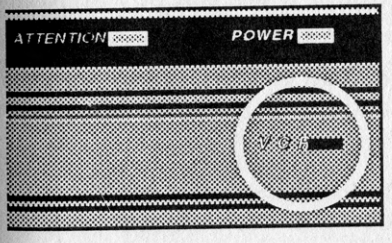
• If the wand works on some operations but not on others (for instance, it always plays but never rewinds), move the wand around, aiming at various parts of the VCR's front panel, until it begins to work. (If necessary, choose "**Check VCR remote control**" again to restart the sequence). Find a wand location that allows the system to work consistently.

• If the VCR still won't consistently respond correctly, try moving the control wand farther away from the VCR. We've found that a few VCRs have particularly sensitive remote control sensors and can be overwhelmed by the control wand's beam. If you find that the wand only works from a distance of ten inches or so, you can either locate it ten inches away or you can reduce the strength of the beam by applying paper tape to the control wand's window. We found that one or two thicknesses of the library tape labels that came with *DirectED PLUS* will do the job.

Learning the VCR's PLAY characteristics

The next step is to help *DirectED PLUS* learn how your MAIN VCR works. *DirectED PLUS* will move the tape back and forth and deduce such things as how fast your VCR searches, fast forward and rewind speed, etc. This information will be used to help *DirectED PLUS* find videos quickly.

Choose "**Learn VCR PLAY characteristics**" and follow the instructions, inserting the *Getting StartED* tape into the MAIN VCR. This part of the procedure should take only a few minutes. If there is a problem, refer to the "troubleshooting hints" at the end of the chapter. Don't try to learn the RECORD characteristics until the unit has successfully learned the PLAY characteristics.



! Important!

Whenever the Video Control Unit is controlling the VCR, the VCR light comes on. ***It's very important not to touch the VCR's own controls while the VCR light is on — that could damage your recording.***

Learning the VCR's RECORD characteristics

This is the trickiest part of setting up *DirectED PLUS* . It can take a half hour or more. However, once completed, you never have to repeat this procedure unless you change your MAIN VCR.

Choose "**Learn VCR RECORD characteristics**" and follow the on-screen instructions. *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to label a blank tape "Movie Library Tape 1." Tape 1 can be shorter than the rest of the library;

even though the screen asks for a 120 minute tape, you can use a tape as short as 15 minutes. Use the labels that came with *DirectED PLUS*. Insert the newly labeled Tape 1 in the MAIN VCR and — this is important — ***adjust the tracking control on the VCR to its center position.*** Press **SELECT**.

It will take at least 10 minutes to create Tape 1. Do not press any keys on the remote control unless *DirectED PLUS* asks you to. (While you're waiting, read "About Library Tape 1," following.)

If this step fails, see the "troubleshooting hints" at the end of the chapter. The most common problem is that the VCR input is not set to "LINE."

About Library Tape 1

This tape will become the first tape in your *movie library*. It's a special tape with no video material on it. It holds information *about* your videos, but the videos themselves are on tapes 2, 3, 4, etc.

When you press **PWR** on the Videonics remote control, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to insert Tape 1. Follow the on-screen instructions and *DirectED PLUS* will automatically save all your editing work — the scenes you've marked, the titles you've created, etc. — on the tape. If you unplug the unit or there is a power failure, you can use Tape 1 to restore your data.

PWR

Here's a timesaving hint: If you insert Tape 1 instead of the *Getting StartED* tape when you start *DirectED PLUS*, then your movie data will be restored at the same time.

Note: If you own CollectED or another Videonics product, you may have a Library Tape 1 (or several) for that product. Each Tape 1 is different and goes with its own library. For instance, CollectED maintains "Music Libraries" while *DirectED PLUS* maintains "Movie Libraries."

Libraries and Library Tape 1 are explained in detail in Chapter 9.

Congratulations...

Your video system and the Video Control Unit are now compatible and you are ready to make movies!

?! Troubleshooting hints

NOTE: Troubleshooting hints for the "Learn remote control" step are located earlier in this chapter, after that section.

Symptom: While learning the VCR's characteristics, I get a blue message that says, "Problem learning the VCR's motion characteristics...," or "Record problem" or "Problem recording...."

• *FIRST:* Be sure the VCR's input is set to LINE (or equivalent — see Chapter 1); that the MEMORY feature is off; and the speed is set to SP or B-II.

• One common cause is pressing CANCEL or PWR before the process is completed. Note that learning the VCR's characteristics takes a while and it may seem like something has gone wrong. Repeat the process and let it finish completely. Don't press any keys until you see the "Setup" menu return.

• The next most common cause is that the VCR is not set up correctly. Carefully review the section "Connecting the MAIN VCR" in Chapter 1 and see the troubleshooting hints at the end of that chapter. Check for bad cables; swap the video and audio cables at both ends — if the symptoms change, one of the cables is probably faulty.

• Check the position of the control wand. The "Check VCR remote control" step should pass consistently. If it doesn't, refer to the troubleshooting section under "Checking the VCR control" in this chapter.

• When *DirectED PLUS* asked for Library Tape 1, did you rewind the tape to the beginning?

• Check the **tracking** control on the MAIN VCR. It must be set to its center position when you insert Library Tape 1. Note that you may need the tracking control in one position to reliably read the *Getting StartED* tape and another position while playing tapes recorded by your VCR.

• Check to be sure the "record tab" is in place on all the videocassettes you're using, including the *Getting StartED* tape. (For VHS and Beta, this is a plastic tab that you can break off; for 8-mm, it's a plastic lever you can switch back and forth.) When the record tab is removed, you can't record on the cassette. The

instructions that come with new videocassettes explain how to use sticky tape to replace a removed tab.

• At the risk of being redundant: Be sure the VCR is set up correctly. Check the connections again, particularly the connection from the Videonics Video Control Unit's MAIN VCR OUT to your MAIN VCR's input. It's possible for everything else to work up to this point with the connections wrong!

Review the section "Connecting the MAIN VCR" in Chapter 1 and see the troubleshooting hints at the end of that chapter. In particular, confirm that the VCR's input is set to LINE; the MEMORY feature is off; and the speed is set to SP or B-II.

Symptom: While learning the VCR's characteristics, I get a blue message that says, "Problem recognizing library tape..."

• Confirm that you're using the correct tape. If the message appears while you are creating a new library tape (that is, *DirectED PLUS* had asked you to label a blank tape), check to see if the tape had ever been used as a Videonics tape. Try erasing the tape by recording over the first minute or so; or use a fresh tape. Also, adjust tracking. It should be set to the center anytime you're playing a tape recorded on the same VCR.

Symptom: While learning the VCR's characteristics, I get a blue message that says, "No DirectED PLUS credit on Getting StartED tape..." or "Credit already on Getting StartED tape"

• Each *Getting StartED* tape is shipped with a *credit* that must be transferred to your Video Control Unit before *DirectED PLUS* will work on the unit. The credit is transferred during the "Learn VCR RECORD characteristics" step. If the message indicates there is already a credit in your unit, simply press CANCEL and *DirectED PLUS* should work properly. If the message says there is no credit on the tape, it indicates that the tape has been used and its credit transferred to another unit. Chapter 9 explains credits further.

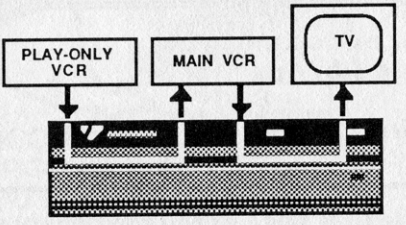
Chapter 4

Watching tapes and broadcasts without reconnecting the unit

You can leave DirectED PLUS connected to your VCR all the time — you can watch tapes, watch television programs, or copy tapes without changing connections. This chapter is especially useful for people in your household who are not interested in moviemaking and want to use the equipment for other things.

To watch broadcast television or a videotape using the MAIN VCR, simply press PWR on the Videonics remote control to turn the Video Control Unit off.

(Note: If, instead of turning off immediately, *DirectED PLUS* asks you to insert a tape, simply follow the directions. *DirectED PLUS* will automatically save any movie data you've created or changed.)



When the Video Control Unit is off, the audio and video outputs of the MAIN VCR are automatically connected to the monitor.

To watch a *DirectED PLUS* movie or to watch something using the PLAY-ONLY VCR (or camcorder), simply press CANCEL on the Videonics remote control several times until the "top menu" appears. Then use the menu to choose what you want to watch.

Using the top menu

If there are people in your household who don't want to learn how to use the unit, there is a quick way they can watch tapes or television shows.

When you press PWR to turn the Video Control Unit on, you'll see this simple menu: If this menu does not appear, follow the instructions at the end of Chapter 1.

```
© 1989 Videonics

Watch a tape on MAIN VCR
Watch a tape on PLAY-ONLY VCR
Watch a DirectED PLUS movie

Make movies with DirectED PLUS

Start a new application
```

If you've purchased other Videonics products, such as CollectED, the video jukebox, this menu will have additional choices. They're described in the instructions for that product.

• *If you want to watch anything other than a movie in your DirectED PLUS movie library:* Choose "**Watch a tape on MAIN VCR**" or "**Watch a tape on PLAY-ONLY VCR**," depending on which VCR you want to use.

• *To watch something in your DirectED PLUS movie library:* Choose "**Watch a DirectED movie**." Then use this menu...

```
Watch a DirectED PLUS movie

Watch a DirectED PLUS final production
Watch a movie from the movie library
Watch a scene from a movie
Watch a dub (copy of an original tape)
Done
```

... to choose what you want to watch. The first page of the next chapter describes the movie library concept and the difference between a dub, scene, movie, and final production.

Audio mute

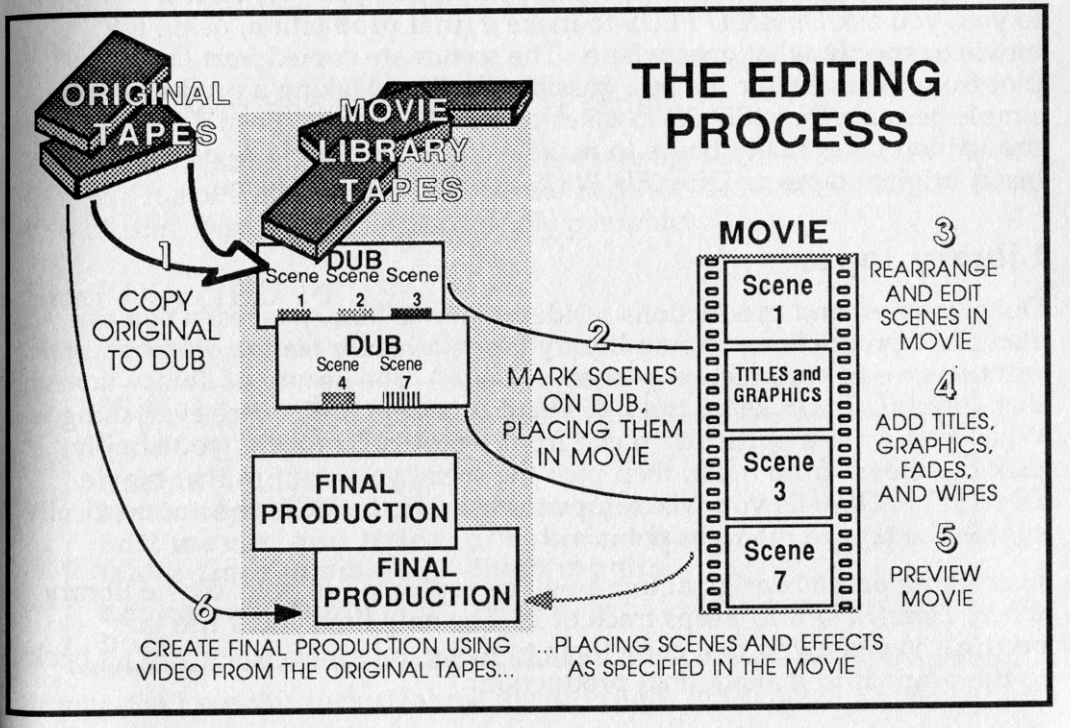
While you're watching a movie (or any other time you're using the Videonics Video Control Unit), you can shut off the sound by pressing AUDIO. Press AUDIO again to bring the sound back.

Chapter 5

Making your first *DirectED PLUS* movie

This chapter describes the first steps in making a movie. It shows how to copy your original tapes to make dubs in the movie library. Then it tells how to mark scenes and place them in a "movie."

In a few minutes, you'll be making your first *DirectED PLUS* movie! Let's start with a description of the editing process so you'll know where we're headed. (This description is similar to the one in the introductory "Before you begin" chapter, with some added detail.)



Editing starts with one or more **original** tapes (camcorder tapes, in most cases). To make a movie, you begin by using *DirectED PLUS* to make a copy of each original, called a **dub**, on a **movie library tape**. (This is an unattended operation: After you set it up, *DirectED PLUS* does the copying and you can do something else.) You'll work with the dub, storing the original safely away.

Next, you play the dub, looking for good **scenes**. For each scene, you press one button to mark its start and another to mark its end. You give each scene a name. Once marked, each scene will automatically appear in a **movie**. A movie is not the finished product. It's more like a recipe that describes what the finished product will look like.

At this point, you have a simple movie, with scenes from just one original, in the order you marked them. You can use the movie as is or you can make it more elaborate, rearranging scenes and adding titles, graphics, and special effects.

You can preview the movie and make more changes. When it looks good to you, you ask *DirectED PLUS* to make a **final production**, using the movie to specify what goes where. The scenes are copied *from the original* (not from the dub), for the best possible quality. Making a production is simple because *DirectED PLUS* takes care of the details. Even if a production takes many hours to make, your job is simple — all you do is insert original tapes as *DirectED PLUS* asks for them by name.

Library tapes

Dubs, movies, and productions reside on movie library tapes. (You can also place productions on non-library tapes, a handy feature when you want to give the production to someone else.) The beauty of library tapes is that *DirectED PLUS* keeps track of what's on them and where everything is. When you want a particular scene from a particular movie, you simply pick the movie from a list, then pick the scene you want in that movie. *DirectED PLUS* tells you which tape to insert in the VCR and automatically speeds the tape to the right point.

Everything on your original tapes will be replicated in your movie library where *DirectED PLUS* keeps track of it. The only time you'll use the originals is when you first copy them to make dubs, and when you go back to the original to make a final production!

Make a movie

This chapter will lead you through your first movie. The movie will contain scenes from one original, in the same order they had on the original. Later, we'll show you how to add all the goodies, like color graphics, but for now, let's make a movie!

Pick an original

Find an original tape you'd like to edit. The best choice would be a short (around ten minutes) piece of video that contains some good scenes and some pieces you'd like to see omitted. You need not use the whole tape; the first ten minutes of a longer tape will do. (Don't use a commercially recorded tape as your original — many commercial tapes contain special signals to make them difficult to copy. *DirectED PLUS* won't satisfactorily copy tapes with these signals.)

It's important that you start with a short original and make a simple movie so if something goes wrong, you won't have wasted several hours!

A note about shooting original tapes

When you record tapes you plan to edit, there are ways to shoot the tapes that will make editing easier. These methods are detailed in Chapter 8 and in the *Using DirectED PLUS Successfully* pamphlet.

Start *DirectED PLUS*

Start with this menu on the screen:

```
▼ Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

If you don't see this menu, follow the directions in Chapters 1 and 2.

Copy original to dub

Select "**Copy original to dub**." You'll see another menu:

```
Copy original to dub
Dub name ..................................... Dub 1
Maximum original length (minutes) ............ 20
View original before copying
Start copying
List dubs in library
Done
```

Start by giving your dub a name. *It should have the same name as the original* — probably the name of the event you were recording.

To do this, highlight the line, "**Dub name ...**" and press SELECT. Type in the name of your choice and press SELECT again. All names in *DirectED PLUS* can be up to 20 characters long and may use any combination of letters, numbers, and punctuation marks. (You could name your dub "?+.3,!:" if you like, but we recommend you use meaningful names so you can find what you want later.)

Capital letters: The SHIFT key

To type capital letters and punctuation marks, use the SHIFT key. **Note that it works differently than a typewriter or computer's shift key**. Instead of holding SHIFT while you type the key you want shifted, you *press and release* SHIFT; *then* you press the other key. With *DirectED PLUS*, you never press two keys at once.

Enter the "**Maximum original length**." This is the length, in minutes, of the original movie. If you don't know the length of your original material, enter the length of the entire original tape cassette. Remember to include the extra tape that's on most videocassettes. A 20 minute tape, for example, will have perhaps 22 or 23 minutes.

When in doubt, specify a length that you know is *longer* than the original. *DirectED PLUS* will record past the end of your video but will later automatically trim the unrecorded trailer. On the other hand, if you specify a time that is shorter than the original, your dub will end too soon, losing the end of the original. If this ever happens, remove the dub from the library (see Chapter 9) and start over, recreating the dub.

Next, select "**View original before copying**." Rewind the original and press PLAY. This gives you a chance to make sure everything is wired and setup correctly. It also gives you a chance to adjust the tracking control on the PLAY-ONLY VCR (if yours has one) until the picture is at its best.

Tracking

Most *DirectED PLUS* users do not need to worry about tracking. Specifically:

- If your **original** tapes were recorded on the machine you're now using as the PLAY-ONLY VCR, simply center the tracking control.
- If your PLAY-ONLY VCR has automatic tracking, then you can skip this step. Otherwise, read on ...

How it works

Tracking controls adjust a VCR's characteristics to match those of the machine that recorded the tape. When tracking is not adjusted correctly, you'll see a rather obvious band of "snow" breaking up the picture. Adjustment is simple — adjust the tracking control so the band of snow (if present) is gone. Some VCRs and camcorders have no tracking control. This usually means tracking is automatic and requires no adjustment. In particular, Video8 (8-mm) machines have automatic tracking.

If your original material was recorded by *two or more recorders*, then each recording may require a different adjustment. To illustrate: Suppose you used a camcorder to record a trip to the zoo and used a portable VCR at the circus. If you made a movie containing scenes from both tapes, you would need to find a compromise position for the PLAY-ONLY VCR's tracking — a setting that would play both tapes well. Since most tracking controls work well over a wide setting, it should be easy to find a setting that will work.

See your VCR's manual for more information on its tracking control.

Director's Hint

Tape flaws are most likely to appear at the very beginning of a tape. In addition, most VCRs rewind to a different point each time, so you could lose material recorded there. We strongly recommend you **never put important video on the first 20 or 30 seconds of any videocassette.**

Copying

Now, you're ready to "**Start copying**." Just follow the directions on the screen. This step takes as long as your originals run. You can do something else while *DirectED PLUS* does the copying.

DirectED PLUS will automatically select a place in your movie library for the dub. (Library tapes are explained at the beginning of this chapter). It uses the number you entered for "**Maximum original length**" as the expected dub length. If the dub won't fit on an existing library tape, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to label a new tape which it will add to the library. The copying step will take a minute or two longer than usual while it turns the tape into a library tape.

• **Be sure to rewind the original tape to the beginning.** It is very important that *all your dubs start at the beginning of the original tape.*

Director's Hint

For the most accurate productions, be sure the original tape always rewinds to the *exact* same point. The best way to do this is to rewind until the tape stops, then play or fast forward for a few seconds, then rewind again. For some VCRs and camcorders, this will make the rewind more consistent.

• **Be sure the library tape is ready to record.** The "record tab" on the library tape must be in place, to allow recording. (That's the plastic tab on all videocassettes that allows recording. In the case of 8-mm cassettes, set the record lever to allow recording.)

• **Also, be sure the MAIN VCR record speed** is set to standard speed (SP for VHS and 8-mm, B-II for Beta). Note: A few VCRs automatically set their speed to a speed other than standard when you turn them off.

• **If you are using a camcorder as the PLAY-ONLY VCR,** use house current instead of battery power. Weakening batteries can cause poor quality dubs.

! Important!

Don't interfere with either VCR during the copy step! If you do, you'll be able to mark scenes and make movies but when you turn the movies into final productions, the productions will contain the wrong scenes! The general rule is: Don't disturb the VCR while the VCR light on the Videonics Video Control Unit is on.

If you're in a hurry...

Normally, you should let the copying process complete on its own. You can end it early by pressing **SELECT** on the Videonics remote control.

• If the video has ended when you press **SELECT**, then the dub will end normally.

• If the video material has not ended when you press **SELECT**, then the dub will end at that point. Any video that follows that point on the original tape will not be included. (The dub will be usable but if you later decide you want the missing material in a movie, you'll need to make a new dub, *from the beginning of the original tape.*)

• After the dub is complete, *DirectED PLUS* automatically saves all new movie library data at the beginning of the library tape. This data, which consists of all movies, dubs, etc. you've created, is in addition to the data on Library Tape 1. It's saved here in case Tape 1 is ever destroyed. Chapter 7 explains library data in detail.

Since this is an extra copy of the movie library data, you can save time by pressing **CANCEL** and *DirectED PLUS* will not make the extra copy. You may have to press **CANCEL** several times; keep pressing until the ATTENTION light on the Video Control Unit flashes.

Confirming that the dub is there

Once started, *DirectED PLUS* will complete the copying process automatically. This gives you a chance to view your original tape footage

while it's being copied (or make some popcorn). After it's finished, choose "**List dubs in library**." You should see the dub you just made, listed as a new member of the movie library.

Select "**Done**." This will give you a menu you've seen before:

```
Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

Marking scenes

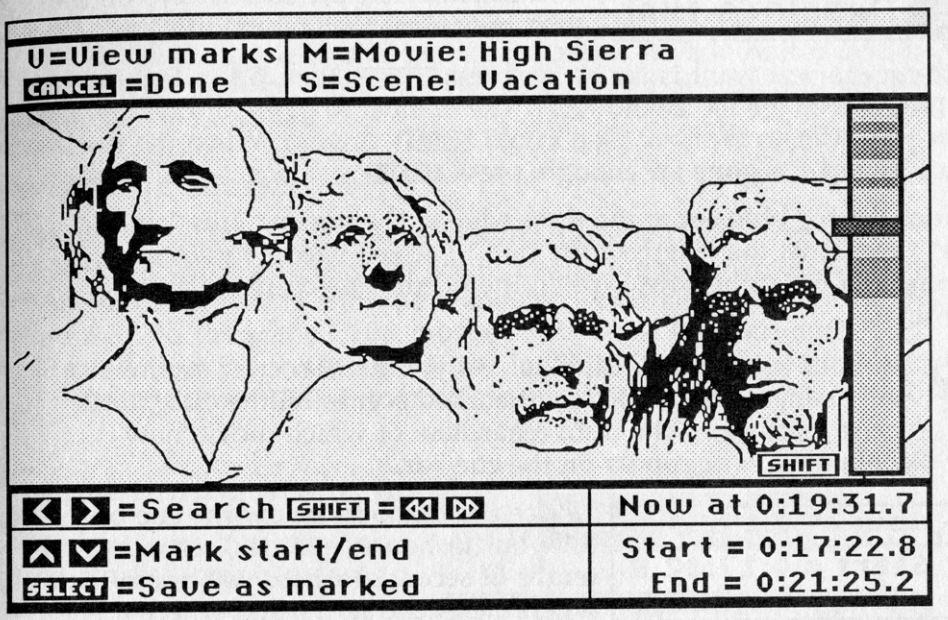
Now that you have a dub, it's time to pick out the good scenes for your movie. Generally, a scene is one piece of action within the dub. (A dub of a camping trip can have many scenes: cooking breakfast, hiking, feeding the bears, being chased by the bears, etc.) Your scenes can be as long or as short as you like — you're the Director! For each good scene, you'll need to mark its start and end, and give it a name.

The way you mark scenes will affect the length of time it takes to make the final production, as explained in detail in Chapter 8. If this is your first movie, keep it simple for now. You can learn the details after you've made a couple of small movies.

Select "**Mark scenes on dub, place in movie**."

```
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Choose dub to mark ...
                                  ... Camping trip 6-86
Choose movie ............................... High Sierra

Mark scenes and place in movie

List scenes in movie
View movie
Done
```

Choose the name of the dub you want to mark. Since that's the dub you just made, its name is already there. Make up a name for the movie you are about to make and enter it. Then choose "**Mark scenes and place in movie**." After a short delay, you'll see a totally different kind of menu:



Your video will be in the middle of the screen. Around the edges are the "controls" you need to mark scenes. Watch now as your dub plays in mid-screen. If the dub is near the end, press SHIFT, then ◀ to rewind.

You can mute the sound by pressing AUDIO. One press mutes the sound; another brings it back.

◀ ▶ =Search SHIFT =

If a scene you wanted goes by, just press ◀ to search for the scene. With some VCRs, each time you tap ◀, the VCR will search to a spot several seconds back and begin to play. With others, it will continue to reverse search ("review") until you press SELECT or another arrow key. You can also search forward by tapping ▶.

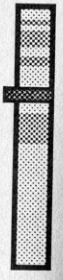
If the VCR does not search consistently and smoothly when you press ▶, try aiming the Videonics remote control more toward the Videonics Video

Control Unit and away from the VCR. In addition, make sure the Videonics control wand is aimed squarely at the VCR's remote sensor window.

Director's Hint You can also use the search keys on the remote control that came with your VCR.

If the scene you want is far away, press SHIFT then ▶ to fast forward (▶▶) or SHIFT then ◀ to rewind (◀◀). (Remember to press and release SHIFT *then* press the arrow key. Don't hold SHIFT down.) When the rewind or fast forward has gone far enough, press SELECT.

Notice the big blue bar at the right edge of the screen. This "cue bar" represents the length of the dub. The red needle indicates where you are right now. Watch the needle as you move around the tape.



Right now, the bar is all blue. As you mark scenes, sections will change color, indicating marked scenes on the dub. Each scene marked on the dub, regardless of which movie now contains it, will appear on the cue bar.

Now at 0:19:31.7
Start = 0:17:22.8 End = 0:21:25.2

Notice the numbers below the cue bar. They tell you (in hours, minutes, seconds, and tenths of seconds) where you are in the dub, where the scene starts, and where it ends.

Marking a scene and placing it in the movie

Now you're ready to mark a scene. Here's an important concept — **Whenever you mark a scene, it is automatically placed in the movie indicated at the top of the screen.**

▲ ▼ =Mark start/end SELECT =Save as marked

Use the arrow keys (◀ and ▶) to locate the first scene. Search to a point a little before where you actually want the scene to start so that you are ready to mark the beginning as it comes by. To mark the beginning of a scene, press ▲. If you didn't hit the exact point you wanted, no problem. Simply search back and try again. You may press ▲ as many times as you want.

Each time, *DirectED PLUS* will change the starting point. Notice that the screen flashes and the sound disappears for a fraction of a second at the exact moment where the scene is marked. This makes it easier to tell where the marks are.

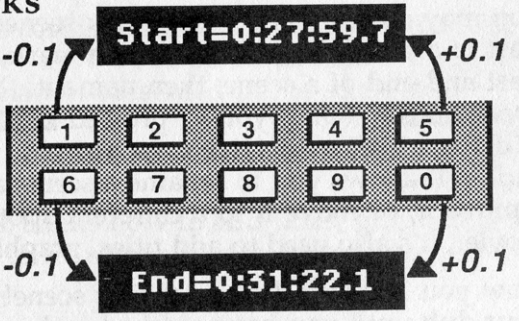
Now you can mark the end of the scene. Wait until the tape arrives at the point you'd like the scene to end (or use the arrow keys to find it) and press ✓. Just as with marking start, you can keep re-marking the end until it is exactly the way you want it.

Viewing the marks

If you'd like to see the scene you've marked, press **U** (for "View marks"). *DirectED PLUS* will play the entire scene, beginning a few seconds before the scene start and ending after the scene end. This helps you see exactly how you marked the scene. You must do this while the start and end times are still showing in the area at the lower right corner of the screen (that is, before you use **SELECT** to permanently save the scene).

Fine-tuning scene marks

Advanced feature: You can fine-tune the marked points using the number keys. Press **1** to decrease the start time by 0.1 second. Press **5** to increase it a tenth of a second. Similarly, **6** and **0** decrease and increase the end time 0.1 seconds for each button press.



You can fine tune only while the start and end times are displayed. You can continue to change the points until you press **SELECT** to save the scene.

Naming and completing the scene

Notice the scene name at the top of the screen. Right now, it's something simple, like "Scene 1." It may also be something like "Scene 12." The scene names *DirectED PLUS* provides don't necessarily start with "Scene 1."

You can (and should) supply a new name. Simply press "**S**." The VCR will pause and you can type in the name of the scene. Then press **SELECT** to place the named scene in your movie.

A portion of the cue bar, representing the scene you just marked, will change color.

Later, when you look at the scene list, you'll find that *DirectED PLUS* automatically capitalizes the first word of each scene. (You can change the way the title is capitalized using "**Rename or re-mark scene**," described in Chapter 7.) If you want additional capital letters (or punctuation marks), use **SHIFT** (remember to press-then-release **SHIFT**). If you want all capital letters, press **SHIFT** twice. You'll see the shift-lock indicator just above the "Now at" number, indicating that everything you type will be capitalized. Press **SHIFT** again to turn shift-lock off.

You can also use **INS** and **DEL** to edit what you type. Use the arrow keys to position the blinking cursor. **INS** adds a space before the cursor; **DEL** deletes the letter at the cursor.

You may choose names and mark scenes in any order. You could mark the start of a scene, name it, and then mark the end. Or you could mark the start and end of a scene, then name it. You can make changes until you press **SELECT**. (Once you've pressed **SELECT**, changes must be made in the "**Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.**" menu described in Chapters 6 and 7. It allows you to rename a scene, alter its start and end points, remove it, or move it to a different spot in the same movie or another movie. It's also used to add titles, graphics, and special effects.)

Now you have marked your first scene! Repeat this procedure throughout your dub until you have marked and named all the scenes you want in your movie.

Placing scenes in several movies

Each time you mark a scene, it is automatically placed in a movie — the top of the screen shows which one. You can place scenes in a different movie. Press **M** and the movie name will be highlighted. Press **CHG DISP** to choose from a list of your existing movies and the next scene you mark will be

placed in the movie you chose. Or type in a new movie name and the scene will be placed in the new movie.

Director's Hint

Shortcut: Moving between the scene name and the movie name

When the scene name or movie name is highlighted, press ▲ or ▼ to highlight the other one.

Temporarily removing the borders and cue bar

What if something vital to selecting the start or end of a scene is hidden behind some of DirectED's on-screen instructions, or behind the cue bar? Press CHG DISP and your video will be the only thing on the screen. When you want the instructions back, press CHG DISP again. When you have marked all your scenes, press CANCEL to return to the menu. (Any scene that has been started but not ended will be lost.)

Checking your movie

At this point, you've made a movie consisting of the scenes you marked, in the order you marked them. Choose "**List scenes in movie**" to see the list. (Chapter 7 describes the information presented in the scene list.)

Modifying the movie

You can change the movie. Chapter 6 tells how to add titles, graphics, and special effects. Chapter 7 tells how to rearrange scenes, rename scenes, change the way they're marked, etc.

Viewing the movie

If you'd like to see your movie before you record it as a final production, select "**View movie**." You'll see another menu:

```
View movie
Choose movie ..................... Aunt Bertha's Ride
First scene to view ........... Arriving at the farm
Last scene to view ............ Falling off the pony
View movie
Done
```

Simply choose "**View movie**" to see all the scenes you marked, in order. There will be pauses between scenes while *DirectED PLUS* skips over unwanted footage or searches for a particular scene. (*DirectED PLUS* will automatically eliminate these delays from the final production).

If your movie was made from scenes on other movie library tapes, *DirectED PLUS* will tell you when to swap tapes. (You never need to remember which tapes contain which scenes!)

If you want to see just a portion of the movie, choose the first and last scenes you want to see and *DirectED PLUS* will play those two scenes and all those between.

After you view your movie, press **CANCEL** until you see the "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**" menu. You can now make a final production.

Finishing up

When you're finished editing, press **PWR**. *DirectED PLUS* will ask for Library Tape 1 and automatically save any movies you've made. (The saving process is explained in Chapter 9.)

It's important that you remember to press PWR after every editing session so that your work is saved on Library Tape 1. A power failure will cause you to lose everything since the last time you saved your library data. (In fact, it's not a bad idea to do it every hour or so during a long editing session.)

Next ...

You can add titles, graphics, and special effects to your movies, as described in Chapter 6. You can rearrange and edit the movie, as described in Chapter 7. Or you can skip to Chapter 8, and make a final production from your movie.

Chapter 6

Titles, graphics, and special effects

Here's how you can add Hollywood-style titles, graphics, and special effects to transform your home video into a masterpiece!

DirectED PLUS offers an impressive choice of pictures for special occasions and solid color backgrounds. You can add titles and credits to your movie in a variety of styles, sizes, and colors. You can mix and match, placing titles on top of a solid screen, a graphic, or on top of your video. The transition between graphics and scenes can be made more interesting through the use of fades, wipes, and cuts.

A title/graphic can include:

• **A graphic:** This is a fancy word for a picture (such as a birthday cake) generated by *DirectED PLUS*. One of the possible graphics is "Solid color." That's nothing more (and nothing less!) than a full screen of solid color in any of 64 colors.

• **A title:** This is text of your choice, available in multiple styles and sizes, and in 64 colors. Each graphic provides title space. You can place titles anywhere in that space. The "Solid color" graphic will allow you to place titles anywhere on the screen — that is, its title area is the entire screen.

• **Fancy stuff:** You can use a simple title on a solid color, or use a graphic without any titles. You can mix and match, placing titles on a graphic. You can even place titles on top of your video (right over Aunt Martha, if you like!). You can mix the title/graphic with your scene using fades, wipes, and more — but let's save that for later.

Let's see how to select from all these options to make your movies more interesting. If you're going through this manual step-by-step, you're probably feeling comfortable with the way *DirectED PLUS* works so from now on, we'll omit some of the obvious steps. Remember to press HELP anytime you need more information.

Start with the *DirectED PLUS* menu:

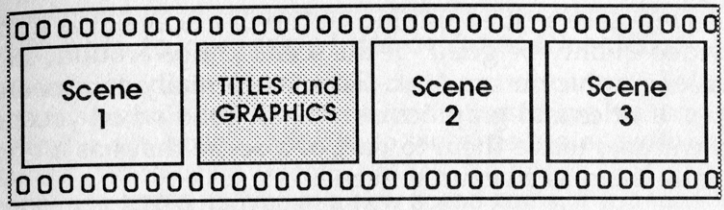
```
Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

Select "**Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.**":

```
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Add or change titles, graphics, effects
Rename or re-mark scene

Rearrange or add scenes
Remove scene or title/graphic

View movie
Done
```

A title/graphic as a scene itself

There are two ways to add a title/graphic: Attached to an existing scene, or as a scene itself. The simplest way is to have the title/graphic be a scene by itself, unattached to any of the scenes already in your movie.



A title/graphic as a scene itself: Not attached to another scene.

In your final production, the effect will be that one scene will end, the title/graphic will appear, and the next scene will begin.

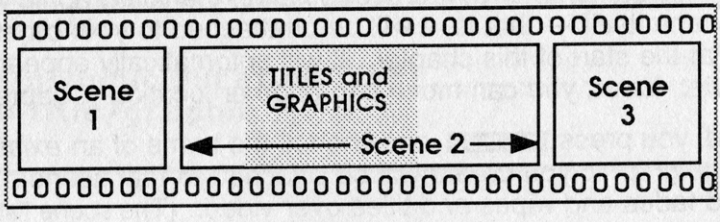
This title/graphic scene is independent of any other scenes. It's the best way to put titles at the start of a movie, a caption between two scenes, or credits at the end.

Here's an important distinction: While a title/graphic used as a scene itself is simpler (it doesn't overlap any of your video), it doesn't permit fades and wipes (since there's no scene to fade or wipe to) and can't include any scene video. If you want fades, wipes, or titles over video, you'll need to attach the title/graphic to an existing scene.

A title/graphic attached to an existing scene

Sometimes, you'll want to blend a title/graphic with a scene. For example, imagine a graphic of a birthday cake with the letters, "Dana's Third Birthday," on the icing. The sound of a child's birthday party fades in. Then the cake graphic begins to fade away as the scene of the party fades in. Or, more simply, you may just want one scene to fade out to black and the next scene to fade in from black.

In all these effects, the title/graphic *shares the screen* with one of your scenes, so you need to *add the title/graphic to the scene.*



A title/graphic as part of a scene

Note: When you place a title/graphic on top of a scene, it is important that the scene's video quality be good. If the scene jumps around, tears, or rolls, so will the title/graphic on top of it. This is especially common at the very start of a tape. If titles and graphics don't look good when you preview them with the scene, move them to part of a scene that has a good, clean picture or create them as a separate scene.

Adding a title/graphic to a movie

Let's add a title/graphic to the movie you've made. Choose "**Add or change titles, graphics, effects**":

```
▼ Add or change titles, graphics, effects
Choose movie ........................ A Night in Paris
Choose scene ..................................... Intro title

Add or change a title/graphic
Add or change fades, wipes, etc.
Specify or change audio fade
Copy title/graphic from another scene
Remove title/graphic from scene

View scene
Done
```

Highlight the top line and choose the movie to which you'd like to add the title. Highlight "**Choose scene**" and press SELECT. At this point you have a choice: You can type in a new scene name *OR* you can press CHG DISP and choose an existing scene.

! Important!

• If you use SELECT to enter a *new scene name*, the title/graphic you create will be a scene itself — that is, it will be unattached to your other scenes as described at the start of this chapter. It will automatically appear at the end of the movie. Later, you can move it to another location (Chapter 7).

• If, instead, you press CHG DISP and choose the name of an *existing scene*, then the title/graphic you create will be attached to that scene. You will be able to add fades and wipes and titles over video. (The scene list screen is explained in detail in Chapter 7.)

Special note to owners of the original DirectED:

DirectED used the term "title/graphic-only" scene (or "non-video graphic") to indicate a title/graphic that is a scene itself. It used two separate menus: one for title/graphic-only scenes and one to "enhance a scene with a title/graphic." When using *DirectED PLUS*, the rule is: For a title/graphic-only scene, use SELECT to type in a new scene name; if you want a title/graphic attached to a scene, use CHG DISP to choose an existing scene from a list.

The scene-type indicators

When you press CHG DISP to see the list of scenes, you'll notice special indicators next to each scene name:

- Indicates a video scene with no title/graphic attached
- Indicates a video scene with an attached title/graphic
- Indicates a title/graphic that is a scene itself (that is, unattached to a video scene

Designing a title/graphic

Let's make a simple title. Start by highlighting "**Choose scene**," press SELECT and type in a new name to create a title/graphic as a new, separate scene. Choose "**Add or change a title/graphic**."

```
Add or change a title/graphic
Preview graphics and title styles

Choose graphic ............................ Solid color
Choose graphic background color........
Choose title style ........................... Big Block
Choose title color ...................................
Enter titles

Title/graphic duration (sec) ........................... 5
View title/graphic
Done
```

Previewing the graphics

The first line in this menu allows you to preview all the graphics that are loaded into memory. (Unless you have added a Videonics Graphics Library or removed graphics as described in Chapter 9, all your graphics will be in memory. The instructions that come with the Libraries describe how graphics are loaded in and out of memory. When you attempt to preview a title or graphic that is not in memory, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to insert the tape that contains it. Simply follow the on-screen instructions.)

Try it now — select the first line. If you want to quit previewing before everything has been displayed, press **CANCEL**. You can also preview just one graphic, rather than all of them, as described below.

Choose a graphic and a background color

Next, highlight the line, "**Choose graphic to add**" and press **CHG DISP** to see the choices. The numbers at the right side of the screen tell how much memory each graphic consumes in memory. (see Chapter 9).

If you would like to preview a graphic, highlight its name and press **CHG DISP**. Wait three or four seconds for the graphic to be painted on the screen. If the graphic you chose is not in memory, follow the on-screen instructions and *DirectED PLUS* will bring the graphic in from the *Getting StartED* tape or the Graphics Library.

Choose a graphic from the list.

Next, you can change the background color of the graphic to any of 64 choices. The background color is the color that will be behind the titles. It's not always the color that's behind the entire graphic. If the graphic you selected is "Solid color," the background color you select will fill the whole screen.

Highlight the line, "**Choose graphic background color**." Use **CHG DISP** to select the color from an on-screen palette. Use the arrow keys to highlight the color you want and press **SELECT**. (You can also change color without the color palette by selecting the menu line and using the arrow keys — a method that is useful once you know your way around the palette.)

Here's an important point: *DirectED PLUS* always supplies choices for you — if you don't choose a background color, title style, etc., you'll get choices selected by our graphic designers.

You can view the graphic with the new background color by choosing "**View title/graphic**" (this choice always shows the graphic with all the attributes you've given it so far).

Advanced technique: Choosing colors by number

Each of *DirectED PLUS*'s colors is numbered. You can see the numbers on the color palette. Highlight the line that chooses the color ("Choose graphic background color" or "Choose title color") and press **SELECT**. The color must be selected — that is, the color swatch must be widened. Press **HELP** and you'll see the color palette with a three-digit number on each color.

The primary use for this is when you are matching colors such as when you want the background color in one graphic to match the background in the next. You can write down the number of the color.

The number represents the amount of red, green, and blue light that are mixed to make the color. 0 represents no color; 3 represents the maximum amount. The first number is the amount of red, the second the amount of green, and the last is blue. Thus 333 is white and 000 is black; 001 is dark blue, 030 is bright green, etc.

You don't need to know any of this to use *DirectED PLUS*'s colors.

Choose title colors and styles

Next, choose the style for the titles using the menu line "**Choose title style**." You can preview the titles, as described in the next section.

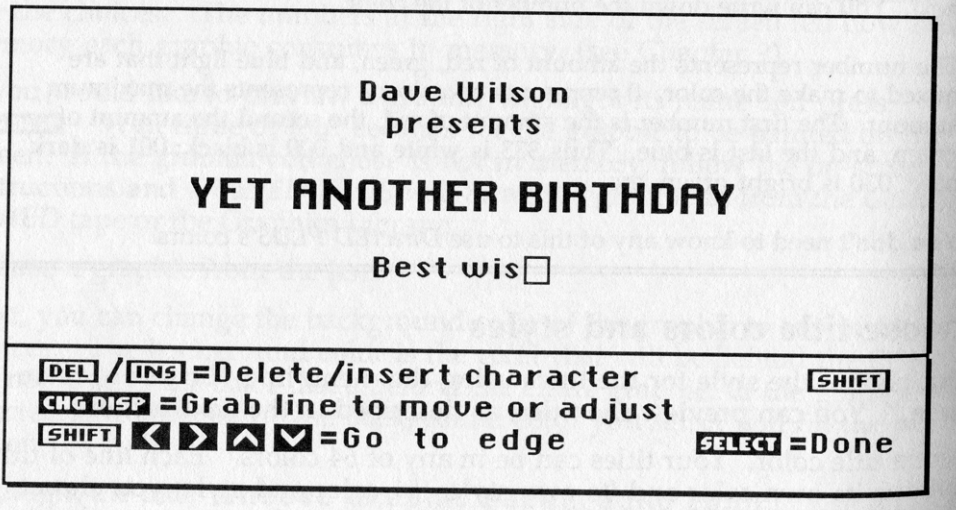
Select a title color. Your titles can be in any of 64 colors. Each line of titles can have its own color and its own style; the color and style you choose now will be for the first line you enter. You can make your own choices or you can let *DirectED PLUS* choose for you.

Previewing the titles

As with graphics, there are two ways to preview titles. Choose "**Preview graphics and title styles**" to preview all the graphics and titles. Or highlight the line, "**Choose title style**" and press CHG DISP. Highlight the title style you'd like to preview and press CHG DISP. When you attempt to preview a title or graphic that is not in memory, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to insert the tape that contains it. Simply follow the on-screen instructions.

Typing the titles

To type in your titles, choose "**Enter titles**." You'll see a blank slate which shows how much room you have for titles. (Note: Some graphics have more room than others. If you type some titles and later switch to a graphic with a smaller title area, you may lose some of what you've typed.) Here's what the title screen looks like with some text entered:



If you'd like to keep things simple, here's all you *need* to do:

- Type your titles, using the arrow keys to move around the screen.
- If you make a mistake, use DEL to back up.
- If you want to sneak in something you forgot to type, use INS to make room for it.
- To get capital letters, press and release SHIFT, then press the letter. (Note that this is a bit different from a typewriter in that you don't hold SHIFT while you type).
- When you're done, press SELECT to return to the menu.
- You can choose a new style and color and choose "**Enter titles**" again to create a new line of titles in a different color and style.
- Note that if you make any changes to a line of text, that line will adopt the last color and style you chose (that's how you change color and style).

That's all you *need* to know to create titles. However, there are lots of extra features available:

- The box in the middle of the screen is called a "cursor." Letters you type always appear where the cursor is. When you press DEL, the letter surrounded by the cursor is the one that disappears.
- SHIFT followed by an arrow key moves the cursor to the screen's edge.
- Press SHIFT twice for "shift-lock." Now all letters you type will be capitalized. Press SHIFT again to turn shift-lock off. The shift indicator at the bottom of the screen changes so you know whether shift-lock is on or off.
- If you want to type titles in the area that's obscure by the on-screen instructions, press SELECT to temporarily remove the instructions.
- To change the style, size, or color of your titles, press SELECT (twice if necessary). This takes you back to the "**Add or change titles on a**

graphic" menu where you can change color and style. Choose "**Enter titles**" and you'll be looking at your titles again. Now, *any line you change* will have the color and style you just chose. Lines you don't change will retain the color and style they had before. You can't mix colors and styles on a line (that is, each line can have only one color and one style) but, each line can be any color or style you wish.

• Position the cursor over a letter and press CHG DISP . Notice what happens. The text on that line has been "grabbed." The instructions at the bottom of the screen change to show what you can do.

You can use the arrow keys to move the grabbed text up, down, left, or right. You can delete the line, using DEL, or you can use INS to make room for a new line. Press the letters **L**, **R**, or **C** to automatically place the line at the left side of the screen, the right side, or the center. (If **R** and **C** don't seem to work correctly, see if there are titles beyond the edge of the title area. Move the cursor to the end of the line and press DEL until the invisible letters march into view).

Press CHG DISP again to "un-grab" the line.

Accented and special characters

You can use special characters that don't appear on the remote control, including accented characters like *é* and *ü*, in your titles. Here's how. Type the unaccented character and press < to position the cursor (the blinking rectangle) over the letter. Press AUDIO and the character will change. Each time you press AUDIO the letter will change to another accented character and then, finally, back to the unaccented character.

Here are the available characters. They are also listed inside the back cover, for easy reference. Note that different characters will appear when you use AUDIO on shifted characters than on unshifted characters.

Notes:

• Not all characters are available in all the title styles.

• The order in which characters appear as you press AUDIO will depend on the version of *DirectED PLUS* you own. The most commonly used characters in your language will appear first.

		AUDIO	SHIFT	AUDIO
1'	1		'	"
2!	2		!	¡
3?	3		?	¿
4:	4		:	; =
5,	5		,	▼ ▮ ▭ ⊟ ☰
6.	6		.	# % © ✓ ☛ ♥
7+	7		+	&
8-	8		-	* / =
9(	9		(	[< «
0)	0		)	] > »
A	a	á à ä â ã å æ	A	À Ä Å Æ
B	b		B	
C	c	ç	C	Ç
D	d		D	
E	e	é è ë ê	E	É È
F	f		F	
G	g		G	
H	h		H	
I	i	í ì ï î	I	
J	j		J	
K	k		K	
L	l		L	
M	m		M	
N	n	ñ	N	Ñ
O	o	ó ò ö ô õ ø œ	O	Ö Ø Œ
P	p		P	
Q	q		Q	
R	r		R	
S	s		S	β
T	t		T	
U	u	ú ù ü û	U	Ù Ü
V	v		V	
W	w		W	
X	x		X	
Y	y		Y	
Z	z		Z	

Seeing the results

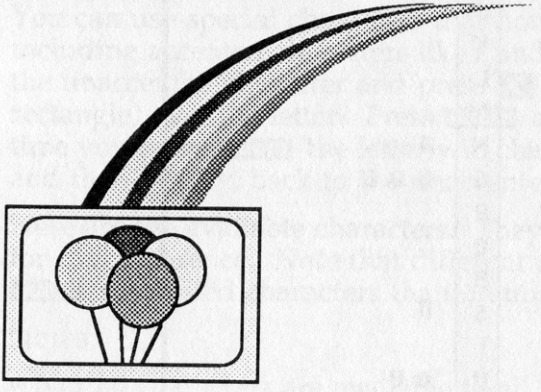
After you've created your title, choose "**View title/graphic**" to see the results. Graphics will take a few seconds to appear on the screen. Then choose "**Done**." The new scene will automatically appear at the end of the movie. Chapter 7 describes how to move it.

Making a title/graphic that's attached to a scene

Return to the menu, "**Add or change titles, graphics, effects**" and highlight "**Choose scene**." Use **CHG DISP** to choose an *existing* scene. Then create the title/graphic as usual. This time, the title/graphic will be attached to the scene you chose.

When a title/graphic is attached to a scene, there are some more choices you can make. You can use the video as a background or title color. And you can decide how the title/graphic and the video scene will interact — that is, you can define fades, wipes, audio fades, and the like.

A color that's not in the rainbow: Superimposing titles and graphics on video scenes



A title/graphic that is attached to an existing scene has one more "color" available than a standalone title/graphic: "VIDEO." If you choose VIDEO as a color, you'll see the video from your scene peeking through wherever the color would have been. This color is available only when your title/graphic is attached to a scene. You can use it for your background color, title color, or both. This brings up some interesting possibilities:

• Choose a solid color graphic and color it VIDEO. Place titles on it and you have titles on top of your scene.

• Choose a graphic (say the birthday cake) and choose VIDEO as its background color. The cake will overlay your scene.

• Imagine the cake with titles done in VIDEO color. Now your scene will peek through the letters.

Experiment with your titles. To choose VIDEO as a color, press CHG DISP and choose it from the color palette.

You can see the results with or without the scene. To view just the title/graphics, choose "**View title/graphic alone**." (The VIDEO portions will appear blue since there is no video available). To view the whole scene, including title/graphics, select "**View scene with title/graphic**."

Fades and wipes

You have added a title/graphic to a video scene. The next step is to decide where the graphic and titles should be in the scene. Then you'll determine how to go between the scene and the title/graphics. *DirectED PLUS* uses the term "fades and wipes" to describe all transitions between a scene and a title/graphic (even though more than just fades and wipes are included).

(Remember that fades and wipes are meaningless when you add a title/graphic as a scene by itself because there is no video scene to fade or wipe to!)

With *DirectED PLUS*, you can create:

• **Cuts: One image is instantly replaced by another.** If you don't specify any other fade or wipe, you get a cut. (This is handy since cuts are by far the most common transition used in commercially produced videos.)

• **Fades (and dissolves): One image fades out and the other fades in at the same time.** If one of those images is a blank screen (a solid color graphic), you have created a fade-in or fade-out. If the "fade" is between two images, it's called a dissolve. For simplicity, we use the term "fade" for all kinds of fades and dissolves. With *DirectED PLUS*, you can never fade between two *scenes* (that would require a way to connect two PLAY-ONLY VCRs), but you can fade from a scene to a title/graphic; or from a title/graphic to a scene.

• **Wipes: A line or other shape sweeps across an image, leaving another image behind it — much like a window shade being pulled down.** As with a fade, you can never wipe between scenes, but can wipe between scene and title/graphic.

• **Fancy stuff.** *DirectED PLUS* offers some complex fades and wipes, including many that are unique to *DirectED PLUS* — even professional studio equipment can't do them! (Our favorite is "rippling blue blinds" set to fast or medium speed.) Experiment!

Choose "**Add or change fades, wipes, etc.**" from the "**Add or change titles, graphics, effects**" menu:

```
▼ Add or change fades, wipes, etc.
Delay before fade/wipe-in (sec) ..................... 0
Choose fade/wipe-in ...
                                                  ... Cut
Choose fade/wipe-in speed ........................ Fast
Title/graphic duration (sec) ......................... 14
Choose fade/wipe-out ...
                                                 ... Fade
Choose fade/wipe-out speed ............... Medium
View scene with fade/wipe
Done
```

You can choose:

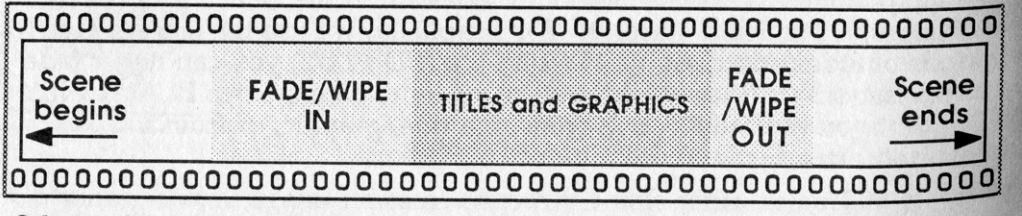
• One fade/wipe for the start of the title/graphic (the **fade/wipe-in**) and another for the end of the graphic (the **fade/wipe-out**).

• The **speed** (fast, medium, slow) for each fade/wipe.

• The time between when the scene starts and when the fade/wipe-in starts (the **delay**).

• How long the title/graphic should stay on the screen (the **duration**).

Example: A title/graphic in the middle of a scene



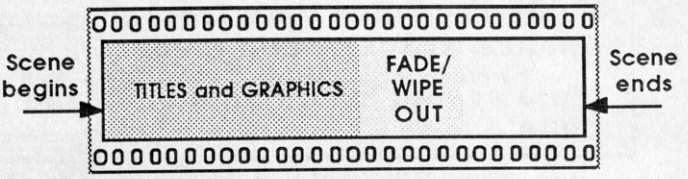
• Select a delay of **10** seconds. Choose "**Fade**" as the fade/wipe-in and leave the speed set to "**Fast**."

• Choose a duration of **15** seconds.

• Have the scene wipe into the title. Select "**Wipe down**" as the type of fade/wipe-out. Decide whether you want the fade to happen quickly or slowly. Select the "**Fade/wipe-out speed**."

Now, view the scene with its special effects.

Another example: A title/graphic at the start of a scene



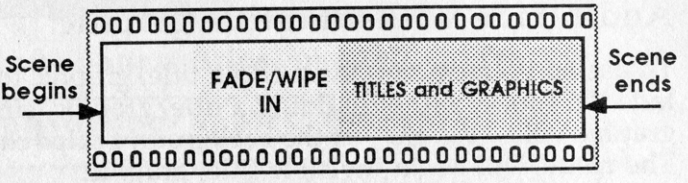
• Select a delay of **0** seconds to place the title/graphic at the start of the scene. Choose "Cut" as the fade/wipe-in and "Fast" as the speed.

• Choose a duration of **15** seconds.

• Have the scene wipe into the title. Select a fade/wipe-out and speed.

View the results. Experiment with the settings.

Another example: A title/graphic at the end of a scene



• Select delay of 10 seconds, and a fade/wipe-in and speed.

• Choose a duration that is longer than the scene (like 999 seconds).

• The fade/wipe-out doesn't matter since it will never happen.

Director's Hint

Here's a suggestion from professional movie editors: When it comes to special effects, keep it simple! In modern television and cinema, almost all scene transitions are simple cuts. Fades generally signify the passage of time or a change in location. Fast fades and wipes are more common than slow ones.

Changing the sound

Notice that the sound always begins and ends with the scene. This is what *DirectED PLUS* will always do unless you tell it to do differently by choosing "**Specify or change audio fade**":

```
Specify or change audio fade
Silence at scene start (sec) ..........................  7
Audio fade-in time (sec) ............................  10

Audio fade-out time (sec) ............................  0
Silence at scene end (sec) ........................  120

View scene, including audio fade
Done
```

You can cause the audio to fade in and out at any speed and at any time within the scene. For example: The choices in the menu above will cause the scene to start out silent. Seven seconds after the scene starts, the sound will begin to rise. It will take 10 seconds to reach normal volume and will stay there until 120 seconds before the end of the scene. At that moment it will drop to full silence and remain there until the scene ends.

Audio fade without a title/graphic

To use audio fade, you must add a title/graphic to the scene. If you want to fade the sound without adding a title/graphic, simply create a solid color graphic with "VIDEO" as the background color choice and don't add titles. The result will be an invisible title/graphic.

Viewing the results

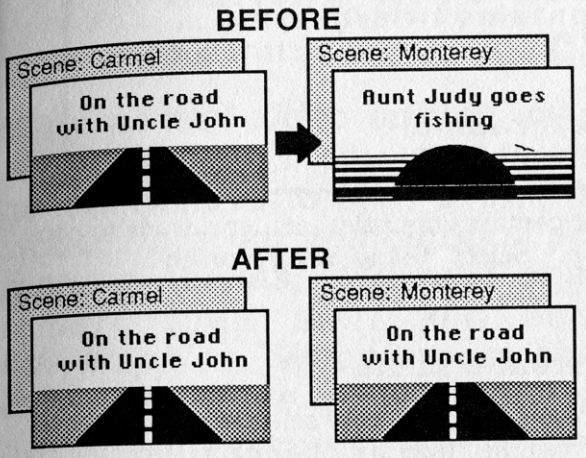
You can view the scene with all its effects by choosing "**View scene, including audio fade**." Or you can choose "**Done**" and then "**View scene with titles/graphic**."

Changing a title/graphic

You can change any of the choices you made when you created your title/graphic. If you change the graphic to one with a smaller title area, some of your titles may seem to disappear. They're not really gone — they're just out of view. If you change to a graphic with more title area, or you delete some of your title, the invisible titles will come back into view.

Copying titles and graphics from one scene to another.

You can copy the titles, graphics, etc. from one scene to another.



This leaves the original scene they came from unchanged. If the scene you are *copying to* already contained titles, graphics, and effects, they will be removed and the new ones will take their place. If it didn't contain any, the new ones will be added.

This will copy everything — titles, graphics, color choices, fades, wipes, audio fades. You can't copy *just* the titles, *just* the audio fade, etc.

Start with the menu, "**Add or change titles, graphics, effects:**"

```
Add or change titles, graphics, effects
Choose movie ..................................... May Picnic
Choose scene ......................... Aunt Judy's catch
Add or change a title/graphic
Add or change fades, wipes, etc.
Specify or change audio fade
Copy title/graphic from another scene
Remove title/graphic from scene

View scene
Done
```

Choose the movie and scene that you want to change — that is, the scene that will *receive* the titles, etc. Choose "**Copy title/graphic from another scene:**"

```
Copy title/graphic from another scene
Choose movie that contains scene ...
                                    ... Honeymoon
Choose scene that contains title/graphic ...
                                    ... Intro title

Copy title/graphic
View scene with title/graphic
Done
```

Choose the movie and scene that contains the titles, etc. you want to copy and select "**Copy title/graphic**." Select "**View scene with title/graphic**" to see the results.

Removing title/graphics from a scene

To remove titles, graphics, etc. from a scene, simply select "**Remove title/graphic from scene**" from the "**Add or change titles, graphics, effects**" menu. This will remove everything — titles, graphics, color choices, fades, wipes, audio fades.

Chapter 7

Editing movies: Arranging and changing scenes

With manual video editing, what you see is what you get — forever! If you want to make a small change, you generally have to start over. With DirectED PLUS, the video librarian remembers your movies. You can remove scenes, add new ones, change their order, remark their start and end points, and revise title/graphics. When the revisions are satisfactory, you can recreate the final production.

Start with the *DirectED PLUS* menu:

```
▼ Make movies with DirectED PLUS
Setup or change system

Copy original to dub
Mark scenes on dub, place in movie
Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Make final production from movie

Revise movie library
Done
```

Select "Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.":

```
▼ Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.
Add or change titles, graphics, effects
Rename or re-mark scene

Rearrange or add scenes
Remove scene or title/graphic

View movie
Done
```

The scene list: What's in your movie

Movie: Animal Adventures	Dub	Len	End
Intro title		0:08	0:08
Original: Zoo			Change
Elephants	7:07	0:24	0:32
Gorillas	7:49	0:39	1:11
Original: Zoo			Rewind
Snake pit	5:23	1:31	2:42
Ducks in water	9:24	0:20	3:02
Original: Circus			Change
Lions	11:22	2:01	5:03
'Lions are coming!'		0:21	5:24
Tigers, too!	18:56	1:25	6:49

A scene list is a complete list of what's in a movie. The scenes ("Intro title," "Elephants," "Gorillas," etc.) are listed in the order they will appear. The symbols on the left indicate the type of scene:

- Indicates a **video scene** with no title/graphic attached.
- Indicates a **video scene with an attached title/graphic**.
- Indicates a **title/graphic that is a scene itself** (that is, unattached to a video scene.

The light colored bands show which original contains each scene — in this example, the scenes up to "Ducks in water" come from "Zoo" and the scenes from "Lions" on are found on "Circus." They also explain actions that will be required at final production time. In this case, when you start the final production, this sequence of events will occur:

• *DirectED PLUS* will record "Intro title" (a title/graphic with no video scene).

• Then you'll insert the original tape, "Zoo" and the video scenes "Elephants" and "Gorillas" will be recorded.

• You will be asked to rewind "Zoo" and *DirectED PLUS* will record two more scenes (the second of which contains a graphic).

• Finally, you'll replace the "Zoo" tape with "Circus" and the last three scenes will be recorded.

The rewind indicators are estimates: There may be more or fewer rewinds than are indicated. Chapter 8 explains the final production process in more detail.

Scene timings

The columns at the right tell you details about the scenes:

- *Dub* tells you where the scene is located on the dub (and on the original tape, since the dub is a copy of the original).
- *Len* is the length of the scene.
- *End* tells you where in the movie each scene ends.

For example, "Elephants" comes from a place seven minutes and seven seconds (7:07) after the start of the original tape, "Zoo." It is 24 seconds long. In the movie "Animal Adventures," "Elephants" ends (and "Gorillas" begins) at the 32 second mark.

Chapter 8 describes how to interpret these numbers and how they affect the final production.

Renaming a scene

Select "**Rename or re-mark scene**":

```
Rename or re-mark scene
Choose movie ................ Day in the Life of Mel
Choose scene ........................ Sleeping in today

Rename scene to ......................... Still sleeping

Re-mark scene start
Re-mark scene end
View scene
Done
```

To rename a scene, select the scene you want to rename. Type in the new name and press **SELECT** again.

Changing a scene's start and end points

The method for changing a scene's start and end points ("re-marking" the scene) is similar to that used when marking a scene, as described in Chapter 5. Choose "**Re-mark scene start**" or "**Re-mark scene end**" and the standard cue bar screen will appear.

The currently marked points will appear at the lower right. The scene name and movie name will appear at the top but you won't be able to change them. You can re-mark the start, end, or both. (The choice of two menu lines — "**Re-mark scene start**" or "**Re-mark scene end**" — simply determine whether the scene is positioned near its start or its end).

You can also "fine-tune" the points a tenth of a second at a time, as described in Chapter 5.

Rearranging scenes

! Important! The order of your scenes will affect how long it takes to create a production. If the scenes in your movie are in the same order as they occur on the original, the final production process is faster and you'll need to change tapes less often.

To reorder scenes, select "**Rearrange or add scenes**":

```
Rearrange or add scenes
Choose movie ............................ Food fight IV
Choose scene ........................ Flying asparagus

Rearrange scenes in movie
Add scene from another movie

Show production statistics
Done
```

Begin by choosing the movie you want to edit. Remember that CHG DISP will allow you to choose from a list of all your movies.

If you choose "**Rearrange scenes in movie**," you'll see a list of the scenes now in the movie. It will show which original the scene comes from and indicates when you will need to rewind tapes while creating the final production.

• Use ▲ and ▼ to highlight the name of the scene you want to move. (You can also use ◀ and ▶ to display a screenful of scene names at a time. That's useful for long movies).

• Press CHG DISP . Notice that the scene you are moving is highlighted in green. The bottom of the screen changes to remind you what to do.

• Use the arrow keys to move the green scene to its new position.

• Press CHG DISP to move another scene; or press SELECT to return to the menu.

Moving scenes between movies

Suppose you think of a great scene from another movie that would be a perfect fit in your current movie. Select "**Add scene from another movie**."

```
▼ Add scene from another movie
Choose movie now containing scene ...
                                  ... Madrid
Choose scene to add ...
                                  ... Muddy water
Add scene to current movie
Rename new scene to ...
                                  ... Rain in Spain
Rearrange scenes in movie
List scenes in movie
Done
```

Follow the menu to choose movie and scene names and select "**Add scene**." The scene indicated in this menu will be copied to the movie

indicated in the previous menu. Note that the scene now exists in *both* places — that is, it is copied and not removed from its original location.

The newly created scene will have the same name ("Muddy water," in this case) and will be located after the scene selected in the previous menu ("Flying asparagus"). You can change its name and move it elsewhere using the other lines in this menu.

If the scene you picked has the same name as a scene that's already in the movie, *DirectED PLUS* will still bring in the new scene. You will have two scenes with the same name and you may want to rename one.

Making a scene appear twice in one movie

You can duplicate a scene, having it appear twice in the same movie. To do this, use "**Add scene from another movie**" but use the same movie name for "**Choose movie now containing scene**" as you used in the previous menu. To put it another way: Copy the scene from a movie to the same movie. The result will be one scene, repeated. Both scenes will have the same name and you may want to change one.

Removing a scene from a movie

To remove a scene from a movie, choose "**Remove scene or title/graphic**" from the "**Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.**" menu. This completely removes the scene you specify (after giving you one quick chance to change your mind). When you remove a scene, it's removed *only from this movie.* The video material remains on the dub and the original, and the scene remains in any other movies in which it's been placed. If you decide later that you want it back in this movie, you can go back to the dub and mark the scene again or copy the scene from another movie that happens to have the same scene.

Removing a title/graphic

You can remove a standalone title/graphic (that is, one that's a scene by itself). The result is the same as using "Remove scene" to remove it — it leaves nothing behind. You can also remove a title/graphic that is attached to a scene. The result will be the video scene with the title/graphic (and all special effects, including audio fade, fades, wipes, etc.) removed.

Chapter 8

Turning your movies into final productions

Now that you've created a movie, it's time to turn it into a "final production."

Final productions are always made from *original* tapes — not from the dub. That's to give you the highest possible video quality. *DirectED PLUS* will put your scenes together on the final production in the order they appear in your movie, with titles and graphics if you've added them. The final production can be played on any VCR, with or without *DirectED PLUS*.

The production process

The making of a final production is automatic. *DirectED PLUS* copies each scene from the original tapes to the final, automatically adding titles, graphics, and special effects as it goes. All you do is change or rewind original tapes when *DirectED PLUS* asks you to. Other than that, you don't need to do anything. In fact, you don't even need to be there. When *DirectED PLUS* needs you to do something, it will blink the ATTENTION light and wait until you are available to help.

Long production times

Depending on the complexity of your movie, it can take hours — sometimes many hours — to make a final production. That's why we recommend you make one or two short movies before you attempt a major production. In making the short productions, you'll learn what editing decisions cause longer production times.

The section "Controlling production times," at the end of the chapter, explains what causes productions to take more or less time, and gives hints for reducing the time.

Making a final production

From the *DirectED PLUS* menu, select "**Make final production from movie**".

```
Make final production from movie
Choose movie to produce ...
                                ... Annie's new truck
First scene to include ...
                                ... Parking diagonally
Last scene to include ...
                                ... Another door ding!

Create final production
Done
```

Choose the name of the movie you want to turn into a final production. Normally, you'll want to produce the entire movie but if you want, you can produce part of the movie. For instance:

- You may want to produce the first few scenes to confirm that everything is hooked up correctly.
- Or perhaps you are working on a very tricky section of a movie and you want to see what the section will look like without having to produce the whole thing.
- Or you may have a very long movie which you'd like to produce in parts, to reduce the chance that an error will require you to start over.

To produce the *whole movie*, simply highlight the line "**Create final production**" and press SELECT. To produce *part of a movie*, choose the first and last scenes you want in the production.

(Note: If you have added new scenes to the start or end of the movie, the first and last scenes indicated in the menu may no longer be correct. You may need to change them if you are producing the whole movie.)

Select "**Create final production**." You'll see this menu:

```
Create final production
Final production location...
                                ... Best fit in movie library
Show production statistics
Preview movie
View PLAY-ONLY VCR to confirm setup
View MAIN VCR
Create production
List productions in library
Done
```

Places to put a final production

Choose "**Final production location**" and press **CHG DISP** to choose one of these four options. DirectED users: Note the new options.

• You can place a final production in your movie library. The advantage is that since *DirectED PLUS* keeps track of everything in the library, the production will be easy to find. You can use the top menu to choose the production from a list.

• You can place the production on a separate tape (a "non-library" tape). This is handy when you'll be sending the tape to someone else.

• You can append the production to the end of another production already recorded on a non-library tape. This is described in detail in the next section.

• *Very advanced feature:* You can force a production to be placed on a brand new library tape. The resulting "client tape" will contain a copy of the movie data as well as the production. You can remove the tape from your library (Chapter 9) and give it to a client to review. When the client requests changes, you can start *DirectED PLUS* from the client tape, make the changes, and make a new client tape.

Appending scenes to an existing production

You can append new scenes to a production you've previously made. For example, if the last third of a production doesn't look right, you can replace the ending. Or, suppose you decide to break a 30-scene movie into two 15-scene pieces. You can produce part 1, then append part 2 later. You can only append to productions that are on non-library tapes; you can't append to a production in your movie library.

To append, choose the scenes you want to add. Choose "**Append to (non-library) tape**" as your "**Final production location**". Then use "**View MAIN VCR**" to position the VCR at the point to start placing the new scenes. Press PAUSE on the VCR at that point. Press **CANCEL** to return to the menu and choose "**Create production**".

Important! The VCR must already be in PAUSE when you select "**Create production**."

Advanced technique: DirectED PLUS will normally begin recording a few seconds *after* the point at which the VCR is paused. The length of this

"safety zone" depends on your VCR's characteristics. If you want to place your appended scenes at an exact location (that is, without the safety zone), you will need to position the tape several seconds *before* the point where you want the recording to begin.

To measure the safety zone, make a small production. PAUSE the VCR at a spot you can find later and append a scene to the production. Play the resulting production and measure the time from where you paused the deck to where the appended recording began.

Note that this is an *advanced technique* — if you skip this technique, the append operation will work normally and will automatically leave several seconds between each production.

Placing more than one production on a single tape

You can use the append feature to place several productions on one tape. To do this, make the first production on a non-library tape. You may want to add a one minute solid color title/graphic scene to the end of the production as a transition to the next production. When the production is complete, simply append the next production to the end of the tape you just made, exactly as described in the previous section.

Important note: Each production must begin over some portion of a previous production or its trailer — that is, over something recorded by *DirectED PLUS*. If you want a blank screen to separate the two productions, simply create a movie consisting of one solid color title/graphic scene. Then append that production to the production already on the tape. (Or you could have added a blank scene to the end of the first movie before you produced it.) Now you have a long, blank trailer and you can position the start of the next production on that trailer.

Getting ready to record

Choose "**View PLAY-ONLY VCR to confirm setup**." Play a tape in the PLAY-ONLY VCR and confirm that both picture and sound are coming through and that tracking is set properly. (Tracking is explained in Chapter 5 under the heading, "Tracking"). If you like, you can preview the movie.

Choose "**Show production statistics**" and you'll see a screen like this:

Production Statistics

The running time for movie "Janene's Wedding" is 21 minutes

The time required to make a final production will be approximately 72 minutes

Press CANCEL to return to menu.

This screen tells you how long the production will be and how long it will take you to make it, including all tape changes and rewinds. The time assumes you are there to change and rewind tapes when requested. The times are approximate. To determine the exact length of a movie, look at its scene list. The "End" time for the last scene is the movie's length.

Making the production

You're now ready to create your production. Select "**Create production**" and follow the instructions on the screen.

> The screen will go black during the first 25-40 seconds of the production. Don't panic! It just means *DirectED PLUS* is recording a blank leader. (It does that because the first part of a videotape is generally unreliable).

On-screen messages will tell you what *DirectED PLUS* is doing , how many scenes remain, how much time the movie will take, how long until the next user action, etc. The times are in minutes. Note that when scenes are close together, the information will not be displayed.

From time to time, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you to change tapes as it arranges scenes in the correct order. It may require many changes and rewinds. This doesn't mean something is wrong — simply follow the on-screen directions and *DirectED PLUS* will complete the production.

Anytime *DirectED PLUS* asks you to insert or rewind a tape, you can press CHG DISP to view the PLAY-ONLY VCR temporarily. This is handy if you forget which tape is which. Press CANCEL when you are done viewing the tape.

DirectED PLUS always asks for original tapes by name, using the name you gave the dub made from the original. (It's best to name your dubs after the original from which the dub is made).

You don't have to wait around...

You can do something else while *DirectED PLUS* creates the production. If you're not there when *DirectED PLUS* needs a tape changed or rewound, it will wait as long as necessary — you don't need to watch the process. When a tape change is required, the ATTENTION light will flash so that even if the television is off or you're watching something else, you'll know *DirectED PLUS* is waiting for a new tape.

You can purchase a Videonics accessory called the "Production Assistant," that will rewind the PLAY-ONLY VCR for you. It requires a PLAY-ONLY VCR with wireless remote control and that its remote control is different from that of the MAIN VCR. Contact your Videonics dealer for details.

Director's Hint — The best way to rewind

The accuracy of your final production depends, in part, on whether the original tape rewinds to the exact same spot each time (including when you made the dub). Here's a hint. Rewind the tape, then play the tape for ten seconds. Rewind again. We've found that with many VCRs and camcorders, this causes the rewind point to be more repeatable.

! Important! — The importance of the correct original

DirectED PLUS is normally forgiving. For instance, if you insert the wrong library tape, *DirectED PLUS* can tell and will let you know. But in the final production step, *DirectED PLUS depends on you!* Since *DirectED PLUS* never records onto an original tape, it can't recognize which tape you've inserted. If you insert the wrong original tape or forget to rewind it, your production won't be what you expected. If this happens, press CANCEL and begin again.

"Behind the scenes" in the final production process

When *DirectED PLUS* creates a final production, it records scenes in the order they appear on the production, regardless of the order they had on the original tapes. If the order is the same, then the production will go quickly — the original tape plays and the MAIN VCR simply goes in and out of record as the desired scenes arrive. You'll never need to rewind the original tape and as soon as the last scene has passed, the production will finish.

An exception is when there are less than about ten seconds between the end of one scene and the beginning of the next. Since that's not enough time for many VCRs to reliably go in and out of pause, *DirectED PLUS* will require that you rewind the original tape in order to catch the second scene.

Another exception is when titles and graphics are added to the movie. Each graphic takes three or four seconds to paint (that is, to add the color and titles you've selected). If a movie contains several graphics in a row and there is not a lot of time between scenes, it may not be possible to paint all the graphics in time. If *DirectED PLUS* is still painting when the next scene arrives on the original tape, you will need to rewind the tape.

A rewind will also be needed when scenes are out of order with respect to the original. For example, suppose the eighth scene in the production is at the *end* of the original tape while the ninth scene is near the *middle*. After *DirectED PLUS* records scene 8, it will require that you rewind the tape because scene 9 has already passed. After you press PLAY again, *DirectED PLUS* will wait for scene 9 and place it on the production.

There is one more reason for delay while creating a final production: If the scenes are from more than one original, *DirectED PLUS* will wait for you to change tapes at the appropriate points.

Why *DirectED PLUS* works the way it does

It is possible to make an editor that makes productions faster (Videonics ProED is an example) but not without sacrificing three key advantages offered by *DirectED PLUS*.

• The first is the ability to work virtually all camcorders and VCRs, even if the play-VCR/camcorder has neither remote control nor edit control jacks.

• The second is video quality. *DirectED PLUS* makes what are called "second-generation" productions — each scene on a production is a copy of the original, never a copy of a copy (which would be called third-generation). There is no intermediate dub step in which the final productions are copies of the dub. (Titles and graphics, by the way, are first generation.)

• The third is accuracy. Some editing controllers uses the "edit control jack" on the play-VCR/camcorder to position the original tape. This means that they needn't wait for the next scene — they can use fast forward to find it. And they can rewind the tape instead of requiring you to do it. They rely on the tape counter information from the play-VCR to tell them where they are on the original tape. While this works well when a high-end editing VCR is used as the play-VCR (because those VCRs have accurate tape counters), with most play-VCRs/camcorders, automatic positioning through the edit control jacks will mean inaccurate positioning after just a few scenes have been recorded.

Ways to speed up productions

When you shoot your originals:

• Keep your original tapes relatively short — say, 30 minutes or less. (That way, each time you rewind and press PLAY, *DirectED PLUS* won't have to wait as long for the next scene).

• When possible, shoot scenes in the same order they'll have in the final production.

• Leave 15-60 seconds between scenes. Professionals recommend you do this anyway because often, as you edit, you'll find that scenes need "air" around them — a pause when the action stops before the next scene starts. Allow your subjects to relax for a few seconds after the action is complete. The space between scenes should be cleanly recorded video, not "snow" (that is, not unrecorded, virgin tape).

• Also: Note that the section on "Accuracy," later in this chapter, lists some shooting hints for improving the accuracy of productions.

When you edit:

When you are editing, the scene list indicates each time you will need to change or rewind original tapes during the final production. You can also keep an eye on how long it will take to make the production by looking at the production statistics (use the menu line, "**Show production statistics**" in the "**Rearrange or add scenes**" and "**Create final production**" menus). Often, you will be able to eliminate an action by modifying the movie. (See the example later in this chapter.)

Note that DirectED PLUS will work no matter how you edit the scenes. But you can speed the production process by following these hints.

Editing hints to reduce production time:

• When you mark scenes on the dub, leave at least 10 seconds of dub time between the end of one scene and the start of the next. Allow extra time if there are more than two titles or graphics to be painted — allow about five seconds per graphic.

• When possible, have the scenes appear in the same order they have in the dub. Recognize that whenever a scene comes from a different dub, a tape change will be required.

• Consider breaking the movie into parts. Produce one part at a time, using the append feature.

Again, if a movie requires scenes out of order, cut close together, etc., the production will still complete; it will simply take more time.

An example

In this example, two rewinds will be needed. The one after "Gorillas" occurs because the next scene, "Snake pit" comes from a spot on the original that's earlier. During the final production, after *DirectED PLUS* records "Gorillas," it will ask you to rewind the tape because "Snake pit" has already gone by.

Movie: Animal Adventures	Dub	Len	End
Intro title		0:08	0:08
Original: Zoo			Change
Elephants	7:07	0:21	0:32
Gorillas	7:49	0:39	1:11
Original: Zoo			Rewind
Snake pit	5:23	1:31	2:42
Ducks in water	9:24	0:20	3:02
Original: Zoo			Rewind
Lions	9:50	2:01	5:03
'Lions are coming!'		0:21	5:24
Tigers, too!	18:56	1:25	6:49

The second rewind is needed because, on the original tape, there are less than ten seconds between the end of "Ducks in water" and the start of the scene "Lions" ("Ducks in water" ends at 9:24 plus 0:20). You may be able to eliminate this rewind by re-marking the scenes to provide about five more seconds between them.

Although most of the time, rewind points will occur as predicted, they are estimates. Sometimes part of the production process may go a little faster or slower than expected, causing more or fewer rewinds. This is normal.

Accuracy

Most of the time, your productions will be very accurate. If you find your scenes are off by a few seconds here and there, try these hints:

• Every time you rewind the original tape, use the rewind hint described earlier in this chapter. It is important that you rewind exactly the same way when you make a dub as you do when you make a final production.

• Use the same machine to play the original tape each time.

• **Important:** For best results, your original tapes should have *continuous video*; avoid large gaps of "snow" (virgin tape that has never had video recorded on it). Snow that occurs *after the last video* is never a problem. Small sections of snow (less than two or three seconds) and snow that occurs *before the first video* are generally not a problem. If you have long gaps of snow on the original, record any video (a television show or some camcorder footage, for instance) over them and remake your dub using the cleaned up original.

?! Troubleshooting hints

Symptom: The scenes in the final production are wrong or they start and end at the wrong times.

Start by choosing "**View movie**" to see what the movie looks like. If the movie and the production are different, here are possible reasons:

• You inserted the wrong original.

• You didn't rewind the original tape all the way.

• You didn't rewind the original tape all the way when you copied the original to make the dub.

• Someone has recorded over the beginning of the tape since the dub was made.

Other sources of recording problems:

• The videocassette has had its record tab removed, preventing recording.

• The MAIN VCR record speed is not set to "standard" (SP for VHS and 8-mm; B-II for Beta). **Note: Some VCRs automatically change the speed setting when you turn them off!**

• The VCR is not set up correctly. Specifically, be sure the INPUT SELECTOR switch is set to "LINE" input and that any automatic stop or indexing features (such as "MEMORY") are off. Chapter 1 provides more explanation.

• The batteries in a camcorder being used as the PLAY-ONLY VCR are losing their charge. Run the camcorder on house current if possible.

• The original is a commercially recorded tape with copy protection. *DirectED PLUS* generally will not work with copy-protected originals.

Chapter 9

Revising the library

DirectED PLUS keeps track of all your originals, dubs, scenes, movies, final productions, and movie library tapes. It automatically saves all this information on videotape so most DirectED PLUS users will never need to think about it. But there may come a time when you'd like to change the name of a dub, remove a movie, or such. Or you may want to make an extra copy of your library data, "just in case." Or a library tape may be accidentally destroyed. Or you may have created so many movies, you are running out of room in your library! If so, this chapter is for you.

Renaming or removing a dub, movie, or production

Start with the main *DirectED PLUS* menu and select "**Revise movie library**":

```
▼ Revise movie library
Rename or remove dub
Rename or remove movie
Rename or remove production
Remove library tape

Remove DirectED PLUS data from memory
Save memory
Restore memory
Done
```

The first three lines are almost self-explanatory. They allow you to change the name of a dub, movie, or production; or to remove it entirely.

DirectED PLUS gives you a chance to change your mind before it removes anything.

Note: To rename or remove a *scene*, go to *DirectED PLUS*'s main menu and choose "**Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.**," followed by "**Remove scene or title/graphic**" or "**Rename or re-mark scene**."

Warning! When you remove a library tape, you automatically remove everything on that tape, including any movies, productions, and dubs on the tape. Similarly, when you remove a dub, you remove all the scenes marked on it.

Saving your editing work: All about library data, saving your library, and Library Tape 1

Every so often, *DirectED PLUS* saves everything it knows about your movies on videotape. It's automatic. **That means you don't have to think about it, and you *don't* need to read the rest of this chapter!** But if, for any reason, you'd like to make extra copies of your data, change what's in memory, restore anything other than the most recent movie data, or if a tape is destroyed, read on....

Movie library data and ***DirectED PLUS* data** comprise the information *DirectED PLUS* uses to remember everything about your movies.

Movie library data describes your movies: What's on each library tape, the locations of all your dubs, movies, scenes, and productions, all the titles and graphics in your movies, etc. If your movie library data were lost, your library tapes would be useless and all your work would be gone!

DirectED PLUS data is the library data *plus* everything that comes with *DirectED PLUS* (HELP screens, the menus, titles, graphics, etc.).

There's a computer inside the Video Control Unit, complete with memory (256 kbytes of RAM, for you computer fans). *DirectED PLUS* uses the memory to remember the contents of all the movies you've made, the locations of scenes, and the like. If you were to unplug the Videonics Video Control Unit (or if there were a power failure), the contents of the memory would be lost. To prevent the loss of your movies, *DirectED PLUS* saves its memory on the beginning of the movie library tapes under the following conditions:

- When you press PWR, *DirectED PLUS* checks to see if memory has been

changed since the last save. If not, it shuts down normally. If so, it asks you to insert Tape 1 in the MAIN VCR and then saves all the *DirectED PLUS* data on that tape.

• Anytime *DirectED PLUS* records anything on a library tape (when you copy an original to make a dub, or create a final production), it also sneaks in a save of all memory on the beginning of the library tape.

Note that you have the option of canceling these extra memory saves. This is useful if you are waiting for a dub or movie to finish, especially if you're in a hurry.

You can also force an extra save on one of the library tapes, as described later in this chapter.

About Library Tape 1 and saving movie data

It takes only a few minutes to record all of memory on videotape. (Actually, in that minute, memory is recorded not once, but many, many times. That way, if there is a flaw in the tape, *DirectED PLUS* can still tell what was recorded.)

Library Tape 1 contains only data — there's no video material on it. In fact, Tape 1 actually contains one set of *DirectED PLUS* data plus an extra set of your movie library data, just in case. (It's a little like wearing a belt and suspenders, but we want to be safe!)

In addition, there are the extra copies added to each of the other library tapes (now we're wearing two belts and two suspenders!). The purpose of these is in case Tape 1 were somehow destroyed ("The kids put it in the washing machine..."). If that ever happens, you can restore using those safety copies, then recreate Tape 1 as described below.

Forcing *DirectED PLUS* to save your movie library data

Normally, *DirectED PLUS* keeps track of all this and you needn't think about it. But there are exceptions. In particular, we recommend you force an extra save when you are in the middle of a long editing session so that in the event of a power failure, you would only lose the work done since the last save.

Fortunately, saving the data is quick and easy: Simply press PWR and follow the on-screen instructions. (If there is nothing new to save, *DirectED PLUS* will simply turn itself off.) Press PWR again and you're back in business.

You can also force *DirectED PLUS* to save an extra copy of the library data on any of the other library tapes. To do this, choose "**Revise movie library**," then "**Save memory**," then "**Save movie library**."

```
▼ Save movie library
Save all DirectED PLUS data on Tape 1

Choose movie library tape .......
                          ....... Library Tape 3
Backup on current library tape
Done
```

With this menu, you can force *DirectED PLUS* to save your data on Tape 1. (This is identical to what happens when you press PWR.) Or you can choose any library tape and save an extra copy.

Edition numbers

When *DirectED PLUS* saves the library, it records an "edition number" on the tape. Each recording gets a number one higher than the one before. This way, you can always tell which recording is the most recent in the event you need to restore your library from one of these recordings. To see the edition number, simply watch the beginning of the tape.

Making a spare Library Tape 1

Choose "**Revise movie library**," then "**Save memory**." Then choose "**Recreate Library Tape 1**" and follow the instructions. (If the tape you insert was ever a Videonics library tape, *DirectED PLUS* may assume you are about to accidentally destroy a good library tape and refuse to record on it. Erase the start of the tape by rewinding it and manually recording anything for a minute (broadcast TV or blank video will be fine), then try again.

If a library tape is destroyed

If a movie library tape is physically destroyed (by a pet, for instance, or by a ride in the trash compacter), you'll want to remove it from the library. Use "**Remove library tape**" in the "**Revise movie library**" menu. If the destroyed tape was Library Tape 1, choose "**Save memory**," then "**Recreate Library Tape 1**."

Restoring your movie data from Tape 1

Most of the time, your movie data will simply remain in *DirectED PLUS*'s memory and you won't need the safety copy on Library Tape 1. Even when you press **PWR**, the data remains undisturbed. You may need to restore movie data if the Video Control Unit loses power or you accidentally damage your movie library (by deleting a dub you really wanted, for instance).

To restore movie data from Library Tape 1, simply choose ""**Revise movie library**" and choose "**Restore memory**":

```
▼ Restore memory
Restore movie data from Tape 1

Change movie libraries

Load new graphics libraries
Done
```

Select "**Restore movie data from Tape 1**." Since this will replace the movie data already in *DirectED PLUS*'s memory, *DirectED PLUS* will give you a chance to change your mind. (Another method: Unplug the Videonics Video Control Unit and insert the *Getting Started* tape or Library Tape 1 as requested.) Follow the instructions and everything will be restored to the same state it had before the last time *DirectED PLUS* saved its data on Tape 1.

Restoring your movie library from another tape

• If Tape 1 is ever destroyed and memory is still intact (that is, there hasn't been a loss of power), create a new Tape 1 by choosing "**Recreate Library Tape 1**" in the "**Save memory**" menu. Press PWR and follow the on-screen instructions to save memory on the new tape.

• Suppose the worst imaginable disaster occurs: Tape 1 has been destroyed *and* the Video Control Unit has been unplugged. In other words, all normal copies are gone!

You can use one of the extra copies that *DirectED PLUS* puts at the beginning of the library tapes. To restore one of these emergency copies:

• Determine which tape was last used to record something. (Note that the recording must have finished entirely on its own — if you pressed CANCEL to prevent the extra copy, it did not save data.) Each emergency copy has an "Edition number" recorded on the leader. Every time your movie library data is recorded, the edition number increases. Simply watch the tape (choose "**Watch a tape on MAIN VCR**" from the top menu) and note the number. Find the tape with the highest edition number and you've found the most recent copy of your data.

• Choose "**Start new application**" from the top menu. (If you don't have that line on the top menu, unplug the Video Control Unit, then plug it in again.) An important note: If *DirectED PLUS* asks you to insert Tape 1, don't! If you do, *DirectED PLUS* will dutifully record the information in memory (which is not the data you want) on Tape 1. Instead, unplug the unit.

When the picture or message on the screen asks for the *Getting Started* tape, give it the library tape that has the data you want instead of the *Getting StartED* tape. Be sure you rewind the tape to the beginning, then press PLAY. Your memory should now be as it was when *DirectED PLUS* recorded the data on the library tape. Create a new Tape 1, using the method above.

Additional movie libraries

One movie library will meet the needs of most *DirectED PLUS* users. You can have as many movie library tapes as you like in your library. Each library will have its own Library Tape 1 which contains all the information

about the movies, scenes, etc. in the library. If you are considering adding a second library, keep an important limit in mind: **You can't easily share material between libraries.**

To illustrate: If you are making a movie and want to add a scene from a movie you made last week, it's simple as long as both movies are in the same library. But if the scene is in another library, you'd have to go back to the original tape containing that scene, copy the original to make a new dub in the *new* library, and mark the scene on the new dub.

Here are some reasons to make a new library:

• Two people are sharing the same *DirectED PLUS* and never share video material.

• A busy video producer has so many scenes that finding them has become cumbersome.

To create a new library, start with the "**Revise movie library**" menu. Choose "**Save memory**," then "**Create new movie library**" and follow the instructions. If you have made any library changes since the last time you saved movie data, *DirectED PLUS* will first ask for your current Library Tape 1 and will save your data. Then it will ask for a new tape and turn it into the Tape 1 for your new library. (If the tape was ever a Videonics library tape, you will probably need to erase the first minute of the tape before you can turn it into a new library tape.)

Be sure to label the new library's tapes so you can tell your libraries apart. (Anytime you insert the wrong library tape, *DirectED PLUS* will recognize the error and ask for the correct tape.)

If you run out of memory

After you have made many movies, *DirectED PLUS* may run out of room to store additional scenes. At this point you can do one of three things:

1 • You can remove movies and scenes you no longer need.

2 • You can remove *DirectED PLUS* data that you no longer need (explained below).

3 • You can start a new library (explained earlier in this chapter). Note that you cannot use scenes, dubs, movies, or productions from two different libraries — if, for example, you need a scene that's in a different library

than the library you're using, you'll need to recreate the dub and mark the scene anew.

We recommend you do item 1 first, then 2.

Removing *DirectED PLUS* data from memory

You can remove data you no longer need such as the HELP screens, certain graphics, etc. Once something has been removed, it can be restored — but not conveniently!

From the "**Revise movie library**" menu, choose "**Remove DirectED PLUS data from memory.**"

Remove DirectED PLUS data from memory

Remove graphics
Remove title styles
Remove special effects
Remove help screens
Remove new VCR codes

Show how memory is being used

Remove DirectED PLUS from this unit
Done

"**Show how memory is being used**" produces a display of this sort to assist you in knowing what to remove:

Show how memory is being used

	Memory used (%)	Scenes (approx)
Graphics	16	
Title styles	13	
Special effects	3	
Help screens	42	
New VCR codes	5	
Used by existing movies	18	151
Available for new movies	3	25

Press SELECT to continue

What to remove

HELP: By the time you have made enough movies to have filled memory, you'll probably be enough of an expert that you won't need HELP anymore. You can remove HELP by selecting "**Remove help screens**." You'll get a chance to change your mind. Note that this choice will not remove the "assist" lines (the three lines that appears in the green area at the bottom of each menu). Therefore, when you remove help, the "Memory used" number will never go to zero — it continues to show the space taken by the unremoveable assist lines.

Graphics, title styles, and special effects: These three choices each bring up another menu (this is the "**Remove graphics**" menu; the others are similar):

```
Remove graphics
Choose graphic to remove ...
                                    ... Solid color

Remove graphic
Remove graphic name

Remove all graphics
Remove all graphic names

Show how memory is being used
Done
```

You can remove one graphic at a time or all graphics at once. You can remove the graphics themselves or their names. If you remove a graphic but not its name, you will still be able to use the graphic in a movie. When you view the graphic, view the movie that contains it, or create a production that includes it, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you for the *Getting StartED* or Graphics Library tape that contains the graphic and restore it.

Restoring *DirectED PLUS* data that you removed

Restoring a graphic or title style you removed is easy. Find a point in the menu where you can choose a graphic (or title, as the case may be). Press **CHG DISP** to see a list. Highlight the one you'd like to restore and press **CHG DISP** again, indicating you'd like to preview it. If it's not in memory, *DirectED PLUS* will ask you for the tape that contains it and will load it in. Note that if memory is near full, you may need to remove something else before bringing it in.

Restoring other *DirectED PLUS* data is cumbersome, but not difficult. Press **PWR** to save memory on Library Tape 1. From the top menu, choose "**Start a new application**." (If that choice is not on the menu, unplug the Video Control Unit and plug it back in. If "**Start a new application**" is there, ***do not*** unplug the unit.)

Insert the *Getting Started* tape (not Tape 1) as requested. Choose "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**" and — this is important — when the screen asks for Library Tape 1, press **CANCEL**. You now have a normal system with all the *DirectED PLUS* data but without your movie library data.

Bring in your movie library data from Tape 1 as described under "Restoring your movie data from Tape 1," earlier in this chapter. There may not be room in memory (that's presumably why you deleted the *DirectED PLUS* data to begin with). You can then decide which *DirectED PLUS* data you want to delete to make room for your library data. You may decide to delete some of your movie data instead.

To do that, start by restoring your movie data. You may have to delete some *DirectED PLUS* data. Use the "**Rename or remove**" menu lines to trim the amount you need. You can use "**Show how memory is being used**" to check your progress. When you've removed enough, save your movie library on Tape 1 by pressing PWR. You now have a Tape 1 with a small enough library.

Choose "**Start a new application**" from the top menu (or unplug the unit if that item is not there — if "**Start a new application**" is there, *do not* unplug the unit.). Insert the *DirectED PLUS Getting Started* tape. Choose "**Make movies with DirectED PLUS**" and press CANCEL when the screen asks for Library Tape 1. You now have a *DirectED PLUS* system with everything restored and no movie library. Use "**Restore movie data from Tape 1**" to restore your library. Finally, press PWR to save the result.

Starting over

If you find yourself confused, with unwanted movies, dubs, and productions, avoid the impulse to just unplug the unit — if you do that, you'll lose some of your work! Here's what to do:

Remove any unwanted items using the "**Revise movie library**" menu, described in this chapter. Then press PWR and follow the on-screen instructions.

Chapter 10
Troubleshooting

This chapter is based on our experience with thousands of DirectED users. If you have a problem, check here first. There are additional troubleshooting sections in Chapters 1, 3, and 8. If the problem persists, call the Videonics HelpLine *.

* ***HelpLine*** assistance is available for U.S. customers; in other countries, ask your dealer about telephone support.

To prevent electrical shock, do not open the Videonics Video Control Unit. There are no user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel. For repair or replacement in the United States, this product should be returned to Videonics, 1370 Dell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008.

?! Troubleshooting hints

Additional troubleshooting sections are in Chapters 1, 3, and 8

Problem: I'm worried I could damage something.

DirectED PLUS never records on your original tapes, so it can't damage them. Anytime you can remove something using *DirectED PLUS*, it gives you a chance to change your mind.

You can't hurt anything with the buttons on the Videonics remote control as long as you observe these rules:

- When *DirectED PLUS* is controlling the VCR (the VCR light is on), never press any buttons on the VCR or on the VCR's remote control. (You can press **CANCEL** or **SELECT** on the Videonics remote control if you want to stop the operation).

  There is one exception to this rule. While you are marking scenes, you can use the search keys on the VCR's remote to move the tape, rather than the arrow keys on the Videonics remote.

- Before you leave *DirectED PLUS*, press **PWR** on the remote control and follow the on-screen instructions. That way, if there's a power failure, your movie data has been safely saved on Tape 1.

Problem: The unit seems dead — the POWER light is OFF.

Check that the power cord is plugged into a working outlet and that the outlet is not switched off. Plug a lamp into the same outlet to see if it's working. If you're certain that the outlet is working, call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** *.

Problem: Unit seems dead — there is nothing on the screen but, the POWER light is ON.

Check the connections to your television/monitor. Specifically, be sure MONITOR OUT on the Videonics unit is connected to your television/monitor's video input. Try exchanging the audio and video cables — if that solves the problem, the cable may be bad.

Be sure the television is switched correctly. For instance, if the Videonics unit is plugged into VIDEO 1 on your television/monitor, be sure you are watching VIDEO 1.

Problem: I inserted the *Getting StartED* tape and pressed PLAY. I see flashing black and white blocks for three or four minutes, then I see video that tells me how to hook things up but I never get a menu, no matter how long I wait!

You are watching the *Getting StartED* tape. You should be watching the output of the Videonics unit. First, check your cables. Be sure MONITOR OUT on the Videonics unit is connected to your television/monitor's video input. Be sure your monitor is switched so you are watching the VIDEO input (Chapter 1 details possible ways to connect and switch the monitor input).

Problem: I see the diagram (or message) that tells me to insert the *Getting StartED* tape, but it won't bring up a menu as described in Chapter 1.

First, rewind the tape completely and try again. Refer to the troubleshooting hints at the end of Chapter 1 and in Chapter 2. In particular:

• *If the diagram or message stays on the screen:* The video signal from your VCR is not getting to the Videonics Video Control Unit. Check the connection from your VCR's VIDEO OUT to the Videonics unit's MAIN VCR IN (V). Try exchanging the audio and video cables — if that solves the problem, the cable may be bad.

• *If the diagram or message disappears, leaving a yellow band, but the black dashes described in Chapter 1 never appear — or appear very slowly or intermittently:* Adjust the tracking and sharpness controls on the VCR. Be sure the unit is well-ventilated, not in direct sunlight, and that its ventilation slots are unobstructed. Rewind the tape completely and try again.

Problem: When I press keys on the remote control, nothing happens. The red light on the Video Control Unit doesn't even flash.

First, do you have a menu on the screen? Until you have started the unit as described in Chapter 1, to the point where there's a menu on the screen, the remote control will do nothing.

If you have a menu and there's still no response to the remote, check that the batteries are installed correctly and that you are pointing the control at the unit (rather than at the television or VCR). Still no response? Perhaps the batteries are bad. Try a new set.

Problem: The remote control works but the PWR key doesn't.

The PWR key does nothing until the MAIN VCR's characteristics have been learned (Chapter 3).

Problem: I get the error message "Unable to continue until VCR remote and motion characteristics are learned, using "Setup" menu."

You must complete the setup of the MAIN VCR according to Chapter 3.

Problem: I am trying to learn the VCR remote control codes but I get the error message "Problem learning the remote control codes. Check all connections and position of the wand."

Make sure the wand is plugged into the control jack on the Videonics Video Control Unit. Check the wand position as described in Chapter 3. Refer to the troubleshooting hints that follow the section on positioning the control wand, in Chapter 3. There is a remote chance (pardon the pun) that your VCR is not compatible with *DirectED PLUS*. Call the ***HelpLine*** * for assistance.

Problem: *DirectED PLUS* says it has learned my remote control codes but when I check them the VCR doesn't do anything or it only functions partially.

Check tracking on the MAIN VCR. You may need to set it slightly off-center. The easiest way is to view the *Getting StartED* tape like an ordinary tape and adjust tracking until you get the best picture.

Check the wand position as described in Chapter 3. Refer to the troubleshooting hints that follow the section on positioning the control wand, in Chapter 3. Repeat the "**Learn VCR remote control**" step.

Problem: During the step, "Learn VCR motion characteristics", I get a blue message that says, "Problem recognizing library tape...", "... This tape is from another library", or "Problem learning the VCR characteristics..." (or something similar).

Check tracking on the MAIN VCR. You may need to set it slightly off-center. The easiest way is to view the *Getting StartED* tape like an ordinary tape and adjust tracking until you get the best picture.

See the troubleshooting hints at the end of Chapter 3.

It is possible that the *Getting StartED* has a blank section at the beginning. Rewind the tape to the beginning, play it for 45 seconds, and press STOP. Now repeat the "**Learn VCR motion characteristics**" step.

Check to see if the tape belongs to another library (another movie library or a CollectED library, for instance).

Check wand position. Try the step, "**Check VCR remote control**" three or four times and confirm that it works perfectly every time.

Problem: After *DirectED PLUS* has successfully learned the remote control and VCR motion characteristics, I get the message "Record problem. Is VCR set to LINE? ..."

See the troubleshooting hints at the end of Chapter 3. In particular: Be sure the VCR is set to LINE as described in Chapter 3. This is the most common cause. Be sure the record tab is in place. Check the VCR's recording speed is set to SP (B-II if it's a Beta VCR). Check wand position. Try the step, "**Check VCR remote control**" three or four times and confirm that it works perfectly every time. Check the connections between the MAIN VCR and the Video Control Unit. View the tape to see what's on it.

If there is still a problem, call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** *.

Problem: I get the message, "Problem reading library tape. Check tape number, VCR connections, VCR tracking."

Check to see that the tape is in fact the tape that was requested. See if it's a blank tape or a library tape that happens to be positioned over a stretch of blank tape.

Problem: I'm having problems making or reading a library tape. Possibly the message "Problem recognizing library tape....".

• First: Try it again. It may simply have been a bad spot on the tape or dust in the tape heads.

• Check tracking.

• Be sure the control wand is in place. Repeat "**Check VCR remote control**" (in the "**Setup or change MAIN VCR**" menu) several times and confirm that it works perfectly every time.

• Check: Connections between the MAIN VCR and the Video Control Unit and the tracking of the MAIN VCR.

• Check one more time that you've inserted the tape *DirectED PLUS* asked for — perhaps you've inserted a tape from another Videonics application (like CollectED or the original DirectED) or the wrong library tape.

• Rewind the tape and try again (perhaps the tape had been advanced past the last video on the tape).

• There may have been a problem when the tape was recorded. You may need to remove the library tape from *DirectED PLUS*'s memory (see Chapter 9) and repeat the step that created the library tape. Here are some things that can interfere with correct recording of a library tape:

- Someone pressed a button on the MAIN VCR or its remote control while *DirectED PLUS* was operating it.
- The library tape's record tab has been removed.
- The VCR connections or settings have changed (MEMORY has been turned on; the input selector is set to TV; etc.). See the troubleshooting hints at the end of Chapter 1.

Problem: I get the error message, "This is a library tape."

DirectED PLUS was looking for a blank tape and you inserted a library tape. If you really want to eliminate that library tape, first remove it from the library (Chapter 9); then erase the first minute of the tape by recording any video over it.

Problem: I get the error message, "This is not a library tape."

Was the tape previously used as a library tape? Erase the first minute of the tape by recording any video over it.

Problem: It takes a long time to find things on library tapes.

• If you are creating a dub or production that's too big for any existing library tape, *DirectED PLUS* must first create the library tape from a blank tape. That can take an extra minute or two.

• When *DirectED PLUS* is new, some library tape operations will take longer than they will later. That's because *DirectED PLUS* is "adaptive" — it improves its knowledge of your VCR's characteristics each time it locates something. Over time, it will become more and more accurate.

• If *DirectED PLUS* always takes a long time finding things, try repeating the "**Learn VCR PLAY characteristics**" step in the "**Setup or change MAIN VCR**" menu. This will not alter anything in your library.

• If you have changed your MAIN VCR, you must repeat the "**Learn VCR PLAY and RECORD characteristics**" steps.

Problem: Using the arrow keys to go up and down the menus is tedious.

Change to EXPRESS mode. Each operation on a menu can be performed with a single letter key when you're in EXPRESS mode. See Chapter 3.

Problem: Some of my movies are gone!

There are two likely ways your movies can disappear: If you accidentally removed them or if the Video Control Unit lost power and was started again

using the wrong library tape. Either way, the remedy is to restore your movie data from a library tape. Refer to Chapter 9 for details.

Problem: When marking scenes I do not get the "cue bar".

Check the connection between the Video Control Unit and the television/monitor and confirm that your are watching the TV's VIDEO input. A common cause for this problem is that there is a connection from the VCR to the television (using a "coax" connector coming in to the TV as channel 3 or 4) and you are watching that signal rather than the one from the Video Control Unit.

Problem: When I'm marking a scene, search (cue and review) don't work well all the time.

• Be sure you're aiming the Videonics remote control at the Videonics Video Control Unit, not at the VCR. You may need to position yourself and the equipment so that the VCR can't "see" the Videonics remote control's beam.

• Some VCRs require that you *tap* ◀ and ▶ instead of holding them down. Each tap should cause the VCR to search a few seconds back or forth.

• You can also use the remote control that came with your VCR. (Note that this is an exception to the recommendation that you never use the VCR's controls while the Video Control Unit's VCR light is on.)

Problem: Poor quality video.

• Check to be sure the unit's POWER light is on.

• Connect the MAIN VCR directly to television, bypassing the Videonics Video Control Unit. If the problem remains, check the VCR. Repeat for the PLAY-ONLY VCR or camcorder.

• Check the tracking controls on the VCRs, especially when playing a tape recorded on a different VCR.

• Adjust the vertical and horizontal controls on your television, if it has them.

• If titles and graphics attached to a scene jump, tear, or roll, they may be placed over poor quality video. The most common cause is placing the title/graphic over video that's on the first few seconds of an original tape.

• A small disturbance between scenes, called a "glitch", is common. Some VCRs will cause a smaller glitch than others. In particular, a VCR with a feature called "flying erase heads" will give perfectly clean transitions.

Problem: Some video screens jump and roll when *DirectED PLUS* is operating the VCR.

• When *DirectED PLUS* is looking for a spot on a library tape, the picture you see on the monitor is "synchronized" (also called "gen-locked") to the picture that's coming from the VCR. If the VCR's picture is unstable at that moment, then the picture you see will jump and roll. This is normal — there's nothing wrong with *DirectED PLUS*.

Problem: *DirectED PLUS* loses memory — it requires Library Tape 1.

• *DirectED PLUS* asks for Movie Library Tape 1 anytime it loses power (and therefore loses its movie data from memory). Check the power source: Has there been a power failure? Is the unit plugged into a switched outlet? The Video Control Unit must be plugged into an outlet that is always live.

Problem: My Movie Library Tape 1 was destroyed.

• See Chapter 9 for how to make a new Tape 1.

Problem: My movie library tapes contain TV shows instead of my home movie material!

• Be sure the MAIN VCR is set LINE rather than TUNER — that is, it is recording from its video inputs, not broadcast TV. See "Connecting the MAIN VCR", in Chapter 1.

• Be sure the videocassette's record tab is in place (its removal prevents recording).

• Be sure the VCR's record speed is set to standard speed.

• Check that any feature that automatically stop your MAIN VCR (such as MEMORY) are turned off.

Problem: The timing of my movies is all wrong — scenes start way early or way late, end at the wrong times, etc.

• Be sure you set the record speed of the MAIN VCR correctly. Everything in your movie library must be recorded at "standard" speed (SP for VHS and Video 8; B-II for BETA).

• Always rewind the original tape in the PLAY-ONLY VCR all the way to the beginning of the tape. Your dubs should all start at the very beginning of the original tape, even if there is a long blank section of tape.

• Be sure the control wand is in place. Repeat "**Check VCR remote control**" several times. It should work perfectly every time.

• Check that any features that automatically stop your MAIN VCR (such as MEMORY) are turned off.

• Be sure the videocassette's record tab is in place (its removal prevents recording).

• See the troubleshooting section at the end of Chapter 8.

Problem: My final productions sometimes have a second or two of snow (blank tape) between scenes.

Repeat the "**Learn VCR motion characteristics**" step. If the problem persists, your VCR may have a problem working with *DirectED PLUS*. Call the *Videonics* ***HelpLine*** *.

Problem: My final productions sometimes jump or roll between scenes. Or there's a rainbow that appears and slowly sweeps across the screen.

The technical term for a disturbance between scenes is "glitch" (really!). It's normal for most VCRs, although some do it more than others. *DirectED PLUS* does several things to minimize glitches (and the results are almost always far superior to what manual editing would produce). But the only way to totally eliminate them is to acquire a MAIN VCR with a feature called "flying erase heads." This feature will give perfectly clean transitions.

Problem: In the final production, some of my graphic colors smear and the picture skews (a vertical line appears to bend at the top or bottom).

This is common with many VCRs. Avoid the brighter colors, especially red, to minimize smearing.

Sometimes the tape is the problem. Avoid "no-name" bargain tapes. Inexpensive tapes are all right, as long as they are from a reputable manufacturer and carry the official trademark symbol that means they are licensed VHS, Video8, or Beta tapes.

If the problem persists, call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** *.

Problem: It takes a l-o-n-g time to make a production.

See "Controlling production times" in Chapter 8.

Problem: I can't seem to consistently catch a scene that's at the very start of my original tape, even though it's fine on the dub.

The first few seconds of a videotape are unreliable and VCRs don't always rewind to the same point. Therefore, never record anything important on the first 20-30 seconds of your original tapes.

Problem: *DirectED PLUS* is running out of memory.

When you first set up *DirectED PLUS*, it can hold a few hundred scenes. If you remove graphics, HELP, etc., it can hold over a thousand scenes. As you begin to run out of scene capacity, *DirectED PLUS* will warn you. There are three remedies: Remove scenes, dubs, movies, and productions you no longer need; remove HELP, graphics, etc.; or create a new library. See Chapter 9 for details.

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* ***HelpLine*** assistance is available for U.S. customers; in other countries, ask your dealer about telephone support.

Chapter 11

Maintaining *DirectED PLUS:* Care, specifications, and technical data

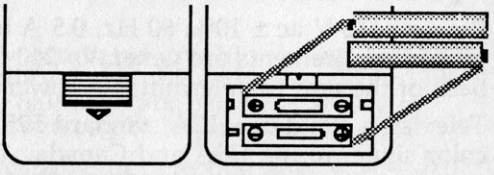
Maintenance

The Videonics Video Control Unit is all electronic with no moving parts. It needs very little maintenance.

• **Preventing problems:** The Videonics Video Control Unit requires proper ventilation. Don't place it in a closed cabinet or on top of warm equipment.

• **Cleaning:** Clean the unit and remote control with a soft, lightly moistened cloth. Do not use any type of solvent, such as alcohol, which might damage the finish. Always unplug the unit before cleaning it.

• **Batteries:** The ATTENTION light on the Video Control Unit will flash when you press any button on the remote control. Replace the batteries in the remote control when the light no longer responds consistently. Remove the battery compartment lid and insert new batteries, observing the correct polarity.



Slide battery cover in the direction of the arrow.

Use AAA alkaline batteries. Insert as shown.

Specifications and technical data

Videonics Video Control Unit model VCU-1 with *DirectED PLUS* personal movie maker

Equipment requirements

DirectED PLUS and the Videonics Video Control Unit require a videocassette recorder with infrared remote control, ordinary play-search capabilities, and video and audio connectors.

DirectED PLUS requires a second videocassette machine or camcorder with playback capability. The second unit does not require record capability, remote control, or search.

Both VCRs can be from just about any manufacturer and use any format: VHS, Super VHS, VHS-C, Beta, Super Beta, ED-Beta, Video8 (8-millimeter), or 3/4-inch. The two VCRs can be of different formats and from different manufacturers.

The Video Control Unit works with any television or monitor with video inputs. With the addition of a modulator, it will work with any television. However, the performance of modulators with different television sets varies widely; for best results, we strongly recommend a television/monitor with video inputs.

DirectED PLUS works with over 95% of VCRs. With over 500 *current* models available and thousands of earlier models, we can't guarantee that *DirectED PLUS* will work with all VCRs and camcorders but we are continually improving the compatibility of the product. If you discover a problem with a particular unit, please call the Videonics ***HelpLine*** for assistance (outside the U.S, call your Videonics dealer).

Specifications

Power: 115 V ac ± 10%; 60 Hz, 0.5 A in the USA and Canada. Outside the USA, power requirements are generally 240 V ac ± 10%; 50 Hz. Check the label on the back of the unit to determine its power requirements.

Television standard: EIA standard 525 lines, 60 fields; consumer grade NTSC color signal in the USA and Canada. (In countries that use the PAL television standard, the unit uses a 625 line 50 field signal with PAL color standard. See the label on the back of the unit to determine which signal it uses).

Input levels:

Video in: 1.0 V p-p, 75 ohm unbalanced.
Audio in: Up to +10 dBs (0 dBs=0.775 V rms); ≥47k ohm unbalanced.
Video out: 1.0 V p-p, 75 ohm unbalanced.
Audio out: 0 to 10 dB below audio input level, 600 ohm unbalanced.

Operating temperature: 16°C to 32°C (60°F to 90°F)

Storage temperature: -20°C to 60°C (-4°F to 140°F)

Weight: 4.5 lbs (2 kg) (Control unit plus remote control and wand)

Video Control Unit dimensions: 2 1/2" high, 8 1/2" wide, 9 1/2" deep (65 x 215 x 242 mm)

Remote control dimensions: 7 3/4" long, 2 5/8" wide, 3/4" deep (195 x 68 x 21 mm)

Weights and dimensions are approximate.

How it works

These specifications apply to the Videonics Video Control Unit. Some features are not used by *DirectED PLUS*; they're intended for future expansion modules and applications.

The Videonics Video Control Unit uses a high-speed microcomputer, combined with custom audio-video circuitry and software and the ability to control external VCRs using infrared remote control.

Processor: NEC V40 (a superset of the Intel 80186 microprocessor). 8 MHz clock with no wait states. (V40 and NEC are trademarks of Nippon Electric Corporation and 80186 is a trademark of Intel Corporation.)

Memory: 256 kbytes RAM main memory.

Permanent memory: 8 kbytes of non-volatile RAM with fail-safe backup power provided by dual redundant lithium cells with a minimum life of five years.

Digital information, including software, video library database, titles, and graphics are stored on videotape. The full 256 kbyte memory is saved in approximately 15 seconds with 16-bit CRC-16 error detection and redundant recording.

The timing track on library tapes has a resolution of one field. Each field is uniquely identified.

Audio: The Video Control Unit has four high-fidelity channels, controlled by system software over a range of 90 dB in 1.5 dB steps. Two channels are used by *DirectED PLUS*.

Graphics and video: Resolution of digitally generated graphics (using half-shift capability) is 768 X 480. Custom video circuitry combined with a Motorola 1378 (trademark of Motorola) provide 64 colors, half-shift and shadow, ability to switch between external and internal video sources pixel-by-pixel.

Special effects hardware: Custom circuitry capable of detecting any of 64 video levels with full resolution. Cross fade between internal and external video with 64 levels.

All dimensions, specifications, technical data; and the appearance and function of components and menus are subject to change without notice.

Chapter 12

Expanding the capabilities of your Video Control Unit with add-ons

DirectED PLUS is a complete editing solution — you don't need to add anything to make full use of it. But there's more available to you. Here are some of the things you can add to your unit.

Videonics *DIRECT*

Perhaps the most valuable accessory for *DirectED PLUS* is Videonics *DIRECT*, our periodic (though not necessarily regular) newsletter for owners of Videonics products. It combines editing hints, news from Videonics Users Groups, stories about how people are using our products, news on new products and special offers. Send in the product registration card that came with *DirectED PLUS* (or call Videonics) to receive Videonics *DIRECT*.

Future products

Consumer electronic products seem to become obsolete as soon as they leave the dealer's showroom. Videonics products are different: You can add new capabilities to your Videonics Video Control Unit without the need to trade it in on a "new, improved model" every few months!

Applications (*Getting StartED* tapes)

Here are some add-ons that come in the form of videotapes (like the *Getting StartED* tape that came with *DirectED PLUS*).

Graphics Libraries

You can add titles, graphics, and special effects to *DirectED PLUS* with Graphics Library tapes. The number of Graphics Libraries is constantly growing; see the latest copy of Videonics *DIRECT* for the current list or call Videonics.

CollectED

CollectED turns your Video Control Unit into a Video Jukebox capable of playing back videos from an on-screen list, just like a real jukebox. Using CollectED, you record video programs from any source (videodisc, a second VCR, satellite, broadcast, cable, etc.). Then you mark the start and end of each video and enter the title and artist, similar to the way you mark scenes with *DirectED PLUS*. From then on, you can choose what you want to watch by using the remote control to select titles from an on-screen list. CollectED plays your choices in the order they appear on the tape, automatically skipping unmarked sections.

ProED

Videonics also has a professional video editor, designed for the working pro and advanced amateur. While *DirectED PLUS* is designed for the home user and works with almost any VCR and camcorder, ProED requires editing VCRs with specific features. It uses the editing features to provide greater speed, flexibility, and capabilities. It offers the ability to connect a keyboard and printer for even greater productivity.

More to come...

Be sure to send in your product registration card so we can keep you informed of new developments.

Chapter 13
The *DirectED PLUS* menus

This is a list of the DirectED PLUS menus. The numbers at the right tell you which chapters describe how each menu works. The menu items are presented in the order they would appear if you kept pressing SELECT.

Top menu

Contents of the top menu will vary, depending on which Videonics applications you own.

Watch a tape on MAIN VCR ... Chap. 4
Watch a tape on PLAY-ONLY VCR ... 4
Watch a DirectED PLUS movie 4

Make movies with DirectED PLUS ... 5
Start a new application 9

Watch a DirectED PLUS movie

Watch a DirectED PLUS final production 4
- Choose production
- View production

Watch a movie from the movie library 4
- Choose movie
- First scene to view
- Last scene to view
- View movie

Watch a scene from a movie 4
- Choose movie
- Choose scene
- View scene

Watch a dub (copy of an original tape) 4
- Choose dub
- View dub

Make movies with DirectED PLUS

Setup or change system 2,3
- **Normal or Express mode**
  - Choices: Normal, Express
- **Remote control key speed**
  - Choices: None, Fast, Medium, Slow
- **Show menu highlight bar**
  - Choices: Yes, No
- **Setup or change PLAY-ONLY VCR**
  - Enter name of VCR
  - Choose tape format
    - Choices: VHS, VHS-C, Beta, Video 8 (8 mm), Super VHS, ED Beta, 3/4-inch, Other
  - Choose stereo or mono
    - Choices: Mono, Stereo
- **Setup or change MAIN VCR**
  - Enter name of VCR
  - Choose tape format
    - Choices: VHS, VHS-C, Beta, Video 8 (8 mm), Super VHS, ED Beta, 3/4-inch, Other
  - Enter new library tape length
  - Choose stereo or mono
    - Choices: Stereo, Mono
  - Learn VCR remote control
  - Check VCR remote control
  - Learn VCR PLAY characteristics
  - Learn VCR RECORD characteristics

Copy original to dub 5
- **Dub name**
- **Maximum original length (minutes)**
- **View original before copying**
- **Start copying**

List dubs in library

Mark scenes on dub, place in movie.....5

Choose dub to mark
Choose movie
Mark scenes and place in movie
List scenes in movie
View movie
Choose movie
First scene to view
Last scene to view
View movie

Edit movie, add titles, graphics, etc.....6,7

Add or change titles, graphics, effects..... 6
Choose movie
Choose scene
Add or change a title/graphic
Preview graphics and title styles
Choose graphic
Choose graphic background color
Choose title style
Choose title color
Enter titles
Title/graphic duration (sec)
View title/graphic
Add or change fades, wipes, etc.
Delay before fade/wipe-in (sec)
Choose fade/wipe-in
Choose fade/wipe-in speed
Choices: Fast, Medium, Slow
Title/graphic duration (sec)
Choose fade/wipe-out
Choose fade/wipe-out speed
Choices: Fast, Medium, Slow
View scene with fade/wipe
Specify or change audio fade
Silence at scene start (sec)
Audio fade-in time (sec)
Audio fade-out time (sec)
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THE VIDEONICS REMOTE CONTROL

PWR Turns unit on and off. If library data has changed, it's automatically saved on Tape 1 before power goes off. (Doesn't function until VCR characteristics learned.)

HELP Press for HELP with any menu. Press again for Help Index.

5 **J** **SPACE** Number and letter keys: Used to type titles; to name movies and scenes. Also used in EXPRESS mode to move through menus faster.

SHIFT For capital letters and punctuation. Don't hold SHIFT while you press a letter. Instead press and release SHIFT; then press letter to be shifted. Press SHIFT twice for SHIFT-LOCK.

INS **DEL** Use INSert and DELete when entering names and titles.

> Arrow keys used to choose from menus, to position titles; move tape back and forth; etc.

SELECT Tells DirectED PLUS to do the action that's highlighted on the screen

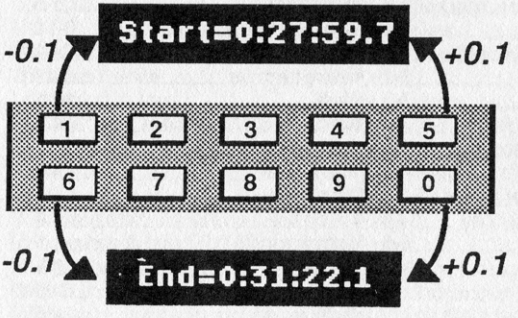
CHG DISP Switches the display to a list of possible choices. Makes choices easy!

AUDIO Press to instantly mute the sound (when the phone rings, for instance).

CANCEL Cancels whatever DirectED PLUS is doing.

FINE-TUNING SCENE MARKS

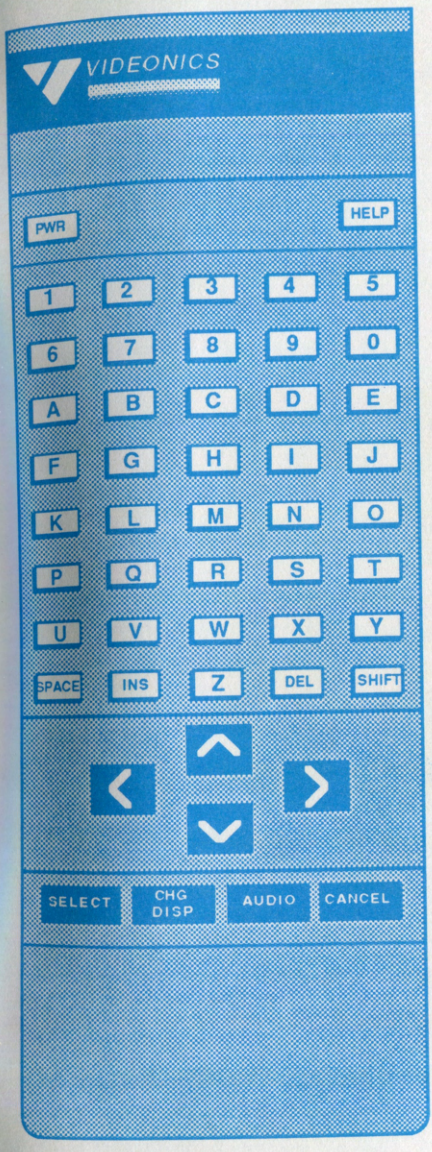
You can fine-tune scene marks a tenth of a second at a time, using the 1, 6, 5, and 0 keys. Works while marking scenes or re-marking scenes, as long as the Start and End times are being displayed.



EXTRA CHARACTERS (ACCENTED CHARACTERS, ETC.)

- For shifted characters, press and release SHIFT; then press the letter (or number). Don't hold SHIFT while you press the letter (number).
- To access extra characters, type the normal character (shifted or unshifted). Position the blinking cursor over the letter and press AUDIO until the character you want appears.
- Extra characters will vary with each title style. Not every character is available in every style.
- The order in which the character appears will vary, depending on the country for which your unit was manufactured.

NOTE!



		AUDIO		SHIFT	AUDIO
1'	1		'		"
2!	2		!		¡
3?	3		?		¿
4:	4		:		; =
5,	5		,		
6.	6		.		# % © ✓
7+	7		+		&
8-	8		-		* / =
9(	9		(		[< «
0)	0		)		] > »
A	a	á à ä â ã å	A		À Ä Å
B	b	æ	B		Æ
C	c	ç	C		Ç
D	d		D		
E	e	é è ë ê	E		É È
F	f		F		
G	g		G		
H	h		H		
I	i	í ì ï î	I		
J	j		J		
K	k		K		
L	l		L		
M	m		M		
N	n	ñ	N		Ñ
O	o	ó ò ö ô õ ø	O		ö Ø Œ
P	p	œ	P		
Q	q		Q		
R	r		R		
S	s		S		ß
T	t		T		
U	u	ú ù ü û	U		ù Ü
V	v		V		
W	w		W		
X	x		X		
Y	y		Y		
Z	z		Z		

DirectED PLUS

VIDEONICS

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